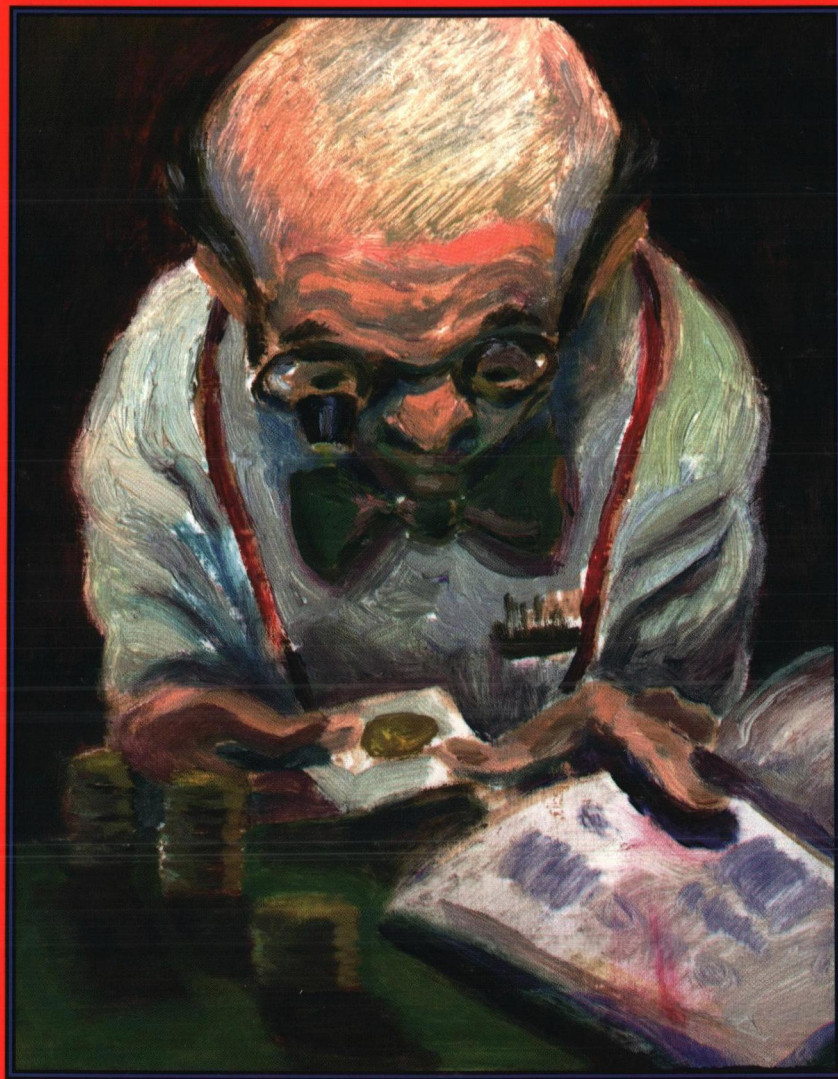


The Numismatist

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SEPTEMBER 2001 • VOLUME 114 • NUMBER 9
33rd Annual Summer Seminar



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June 7-8, 2002
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June 27-28, 2002
Bowers and Merena Galleries—Chicago, Illinois
In conjunction with the Mid-America Coin Expo

July 29-30, 2002
Bowers and Merena Galleries—New York City
Rarities Sale



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FEATURES

NUMISMATIC LITERATURE

Early Children's Counting Books

- 1010 "That Twenty Shillings are a Pound . . ." and similar rhyming text from books first published in the early 1800s taught children social and monetary concepts.

L. D. MITCHELL

U.S. COINAGE

An Analysis of 1796-97 Draped Bust Half Dollars

- 1015 Distinguished by its diminutive eagle, this early 50-cent piece is one of America's rarest coins.

JON P. AMATO

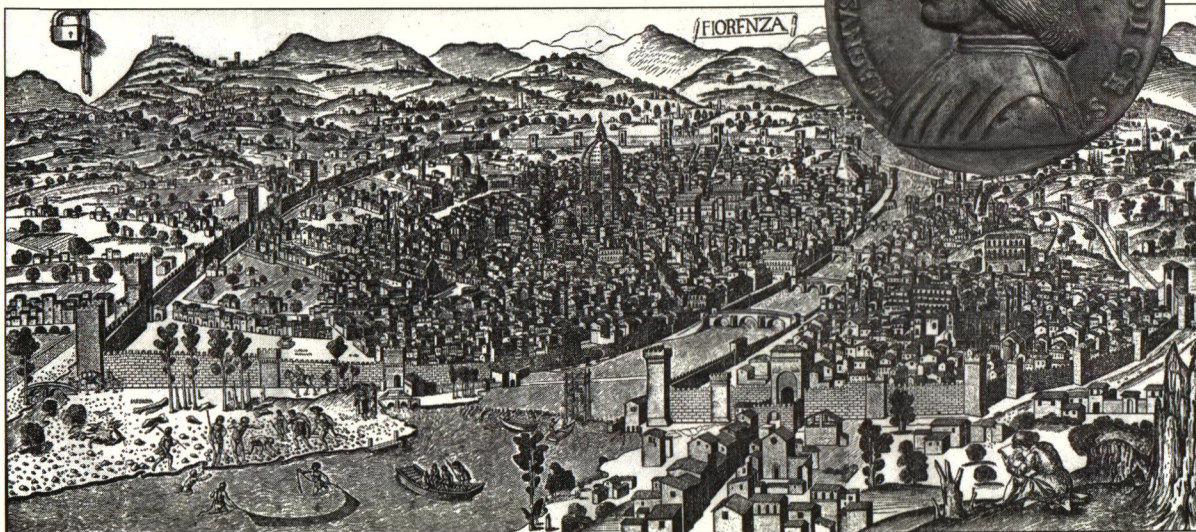
ITALIAN NUMISMATICS

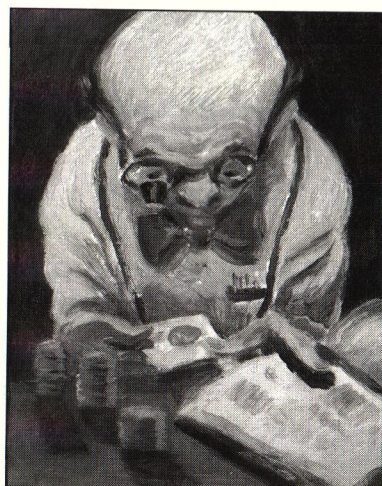
Lorenzo de' Medici and the Pursuit of Numismatics

- 1022 Reflecting the ideals and interests of Renaissance Italy, Lorenzo de' Medici assembled a collection of ancient coins that influenced literature, art and architecture.

JASON F. KUHL

Influenced by humanistic teachings that were popular in Renaissance Italy, Lorenzo de' Medici was one of many wealthy Florentines who collected coins of ancient Greece and Rome (page 1022).





COVER

At an art exhibit presented by the "Intaglio Engraving" class during the American Numismatic Association's 33rd Annual Summer Seminar (page 1063), instructor Chris Madden displayed this painting entitled *Numismatist*.



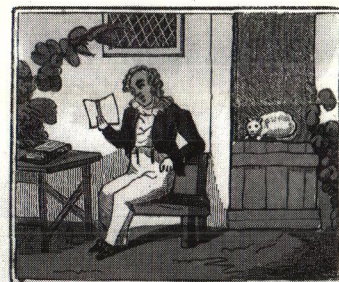
Author Jon Amato offers a preliminary survey of surviving 1796-97 Draped Bust half dollars by grade (page 1015).

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Counting books were as educational as they were entertaining (page 1010).

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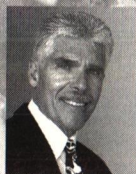
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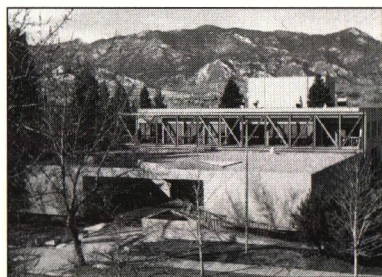
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The Golden Age of Numismatics

AS I WRITE my first message, I am both humbled and honored to assume the office of president of the finest organization in the world. My promise to the membership is to devote my time and energy for the betterment of our Association and the numismatic hobby we all love so much. I intend to serve not by asking what the ANA can do for me, but what I can do for the ANA.

My sincere thanks to everyone who supported me for president. I know that all of us can come together to make the next two years the greatest in the history of the ANA.

My main agenda will be furthering the Association's educational projects. The ANA is mandated by Congress as an educational organization, and the Board of Governors will work hard to fulfill this mission. Future messages will outline some of my proposals.

What an honor to be president of the ANA! I am following some great predecessors, from our first president, William G. Jerrems Jr., to Immediate Past President H. Robert Campbell. After the ANA's first year (1891), the membership totaled 122 members. Today, the Association claims about 30,000, and my wish, as your president, is to leave office with at least 35,000 members.

At last June's Long Beach Coin and Collectibles Expo, I spoke with past ANA Governor Donn Pearlman, who told me, "Decades from now, collectors will view this time period as one of the greatest eras of numismatics. Because of the new designs on circulating coins and paper money, we've seen a huge explosion of interest in collecting. Perhaps this will be the 'Golden Age' of

FROM YOUR
PRESIDENT
.....
BY JOHN WILSON

numismatics in America."

I agree wholeheartedly with Donn's comments. With millions of families and individuals collecting the new 50 State quarters and Sacagawea "golden dollars," now is the time to interest them in all areas of our hobby. In addition,

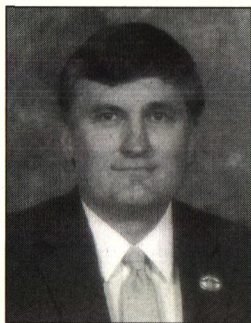
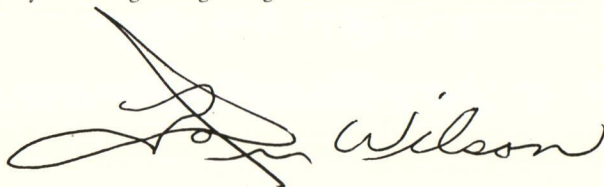
the area of paper money has grown tremendously since the newly designed bills entered circulation. Paper money issues back to 1929 are very popular, and dealers are having a hard time keeping them in stock. I urge all of you to start circulating the new \$1 coins and State quarters while talking up the hobby wherever you work or do business.

Finishing work on the remodeled ANA Museum and Library continues. However, we have met only about 15 percent of our \$3 million fund-raising goal. I sincerely hope that all members will donate to this very worthwhile project. With the spectacular Harry W. Bass Jr. Collection now on display, as well as the other renovation in the Museum, we now have a world-class facility in Colorado Springs. I hope all our members get the opportunity to visit their Museum and headquarters.

With the arrival this month of the ANA's new curator, Lawrence J. Lee, we have a truly gifted leader for our museum. I want to personally thank all the hard-working staff at ANA, especially Executive Director Edward C. Rochette for his dogged determination during construction under less than perfect conditions. I also want to sincerely thank Robert Hoge for his 20 years of service to the ANA as our museum curator.

A personal note of recognition also goes to those who stepped down from the ANA Board of Governors—Bob Campbell, Tom Hallenbeck and Anthony Swiatek. It was a pleasure serving with all of you.

I will close by saying that my telephone and fax numbers, as well as my E-mail address, are listed in the front of each issue of *The Numismatist*. Please let me know your thoughts regarding our ANA. •



Actively involved in the hobby for 30 years, President John Wilson (LM 3467) of Ocala, Florida, is an avid collector and exhibitor, specializing primarily in United States paper money. He is a retired Milwaukee County deputy sheriff and is married to former ANA Governor Nancy Wilson. Before his election to the Board of Governors, he served as a regional coordinator in the ANA's Representative Program.

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The merger gives CAA the unmatched ability to attract potential consignors and bidders, which means more choices for paper money collectors:

- more frequent auctions, containing larger amounts of material
- access to Heritage's active mailing list of 50,000 names and web site membership exceeding 38,000 numismatists, all preregistered to bid online
- online interactive bidding and paper money search engine capabilities at www.CurrencyAuction.com and www.HeritageCoin.com.
- full color, enlargeable images of every single-note lot posted on the Internet
- lots for the September CAA auction in Cincinnati will also be available for viewing through Heritage at the ANA convention in Atlanta in August
- all CAA catalogs will be available in CD-ROM format as well as online
- lead-times will be shortened between consignment deadlines and sale dates
- greater financial resources for cash advances to consignors and for purchases

**We invite your participation
in future CAA auctions.**

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New Coins Require New Price Guides

STATISTICAL INDEXES OF several kinds routinely are employed in evaluating the performance of common stocks and bonds. Some examples include the Dow Jones Industrial Average; Standard & Poor's 500; Nasdaq; Wilshire 5000 Equity Index; and Morgan Stanley Capital

International Europe, Australasia and Far East Index.

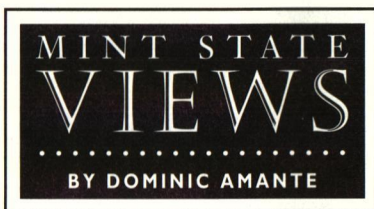
These financial indexes are quite popular and often help guide investment decisions, monitoring the movement and/or outcomes of different underlying securities over time and across geographical regions. In spite of these benefits, however, such indexes are far from perfect in a statistical sense.

For instance, while many popular indexes for common stocks indicate a rallying market, other statistical indicators—such as the New York Stock Exchange Advance/Decline—recently documented the presence of an obvious bear market. This divergence of market indicators often is viewed with alarm, but may present some extremely useful information.

Similar indexes likewise are important in the field of numismatics. Many coin dealerships publish price guides that report current market changes or movement. *Coin World* follows price trends on a regular basis. Perhaps the most promising and certainly the most statistically sophisticated coinage index presently available is Coin Universe 3000, developed by David Hall and associates.

It should be recognized, however, that most of these price guides pertain to older or classical American coinage. They completely overlook a current, dynamic market sector that may prove to be of substantial interest to both collectors and investors. In particular, I refer to the various coins in the United States Mint's 50 State Quarters™ Program; the earlier silver, gold and platinum American Eagle bullion coins and coin sets; and, most recently, the Sacagawea golden dollar.

The unusual, rapid rise in market prices for some of this new coinage, especially the 50 State quarters, has been nothing less than stunning. The available evidence indicates that the market prices have remained relatively constant or slowly and progressively increased. At this



point, I have seen no clear indication that prices have decreased. With their growing popularity, their values may well continue to soar. And, since this is a 10-year program sponsored by the Mint, there is no compelling reason to assume that interest in this coinage will fade anytime soon.

In large part, the popularity of the 50 State quarters appears to be driven by a set of interrelated dual psychodynamic processes, operating at conscious and unconscious levels; and a correlated or parallel sociocultural duality involving manifest and latent functions or outcomes intrinsic to the recent entrepreneurial activities of the U.S. Mint.

Prices commanded by these new issues, particularly when compared to those of classical coins, is analogous to the conventional stock market, especially if one considers the apparent stock price movement and/or levels of large corporate enterprises in relation to the stock prices and increases of smaller, recently developed computer, Internet or biotechnology companies. This paradox is all the more striking when one recalls that the newer coins have extremely high mintages and a base-metal composition, as opposed to classical coinage that is much less common and often made up of silver and gold.

At any rate, I would conclude that the numismatic field now requires a new, more specialized index to represent contemporary American coinage. I would hope that the American Numismatic Association could sponsor such an index. The development of a measure or indicator of this type would not only be very helpful to many coin collectors and/or investors, but also might actually help the entire field to grow.

An ANA member since 1996, Dr. Dominic Amante is a licensed psychologist in Michigan.

Opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the ANA or the editorial staff.

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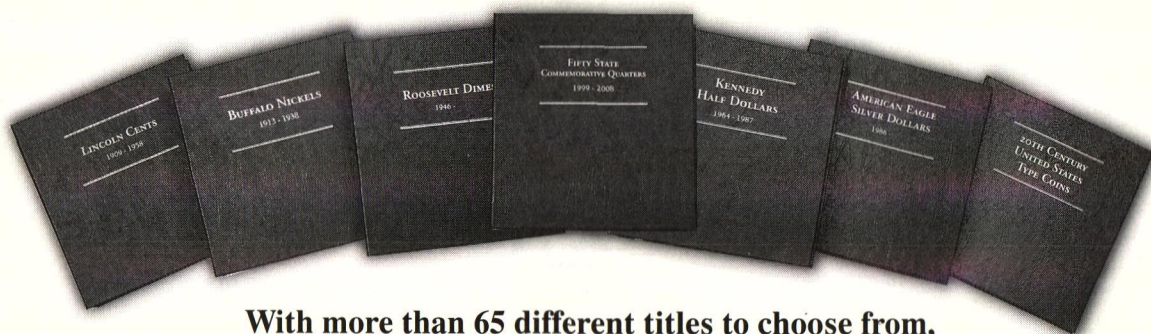
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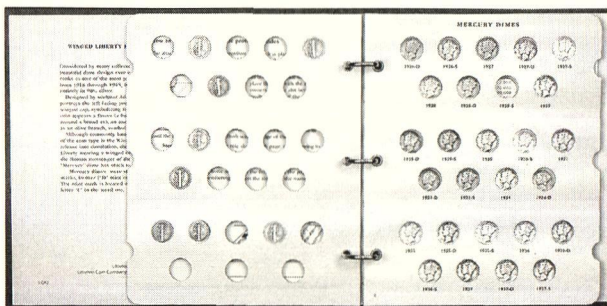


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LETTERS

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Math Tutor Organizes Middle School Coin Club

I have been reading the July 2001 issue of *The Numismatist* and would like to add my comments to several of the letters. I am the advisor to the Becker Middle School Coin Club in Las Vegas. I formed the club nine years ago after I retired as a math teacher and became a tutor.

I used coins as prizes for my students, and they asked me to start a club. I now conduct meetings on a weekly basis. Since the club's inception, approximately 250 students have enrolled. I received a donation of 90 used "Red Books," so I give every enrollee a copy, as well as a Wheat cent folder.

At each meeting, I set out about 1,000 Wheat cents, and members are encouraged to take as many as 10 coins to add to his or her folder. That is my "hook," and it works. Our meetings also include videotapes, talks, quizzes, and show and tell. From there they go on to trading, want lists and a desire to learn more.

We cover any and all phases of numismatics, such as United States and foreign coins, and paper currency. We allow each student to find his or her own specialty. I use requirements from the Boy Scout Coin Collecting Merit Badge as criteria for each student to be called a "numismatist" at our graduation party each year. We disband for the summer, but start up again in September.

We receive support from our parent club—the Las Vegas Numismatic Society. I have been able to establish a numismatic library of

more than 75 books. Needless to say, I am extremely proud to give something back to the hobby that has been my love for over 70 years.

Morey M. Friedman, ANA 125848

Member Offers Comments on "Moo-mismatists" and Fate of the Lowly Cent

Nancy Martindale's article "Are You a Moo-mismatist?" (July 2001, p. 781) listed a number of inexpensive coins that can be bought by young collectors with limited funds. *The Numismatist* should include more articles of this sort that can stimulate interest in numismatics!

As the author points out, cattle were depicted on some ancient coins. Perhaps the most readily available of these are the silver Byzantine coins depicting a cow standing on a dolphin, and the silver drachms of Apollonia showing a cow and her calf.

As far as Sol Taylor's commentary in "Mint State Views" ("America's Cent: A Fading Memory," p. 764), regarding mints of various nations ceasing to produce their lowest-denomination coins, it seems it is only a matter of time until the lowly U.S. zinc cent is discontinued. However, it is a confusion of cause and effect to state that "the immediate effect has been a loss of trade value against the United States dollar and a sharp rise in inflation (3 to 5 percent)." Just the opposite is true.

Lowering the purchasing power of the monetary unit by well-calculated monetary policy—a diabolical way of managing (repudiating) government debts—renders the costs of minting low-denomination coins excessive in terms of the deliberately devalued monetary unit.

In the United States, the purchas-

ing power of the dollar is only about one-tenth of what it was in the 1950s. Two reliably indicative prices demonstrate this, no matter what governmental claims are made: automobile prices and postal rates. Postal service is related to a wide variety of aspects of the economy, and until 1958, the cost of mailing a letter was less than one-eleventh of the present price.

Charles E. Weber, LM 285

Capped Bust Facts in Error

I enjoyed the article, "The Occasional 1809 Dime," in the July 2001 issue (p. 788). However, some factual errors should be pointed out. John Reich's Capped Bust design for the dime was used until 1828, when it was modified by William Kneass. The mintage of the 1809 large cent was a bit over 222,000 not 1.2 million. And, the United States Mint ceased production of dollar coins in 1803, not 1802.

Bruce C. Spence, ANA 168221

Proposed Legislation Would Not "Modernize" Coinage

On July 17, Representative Jim Kolbe (R-Arizona) introduced the "Legal Tender Modernization Act." According to Kolbe's web site (www.house.gov/apps/list/press/az05_kolbe/Legal_Tender_170701.html), the bill would "improve the convenience and effectiveness of American money."

Says Kolbe, "My bill will bring about a rounding system on any cash sales transaction which will be applied to the total cost of all goods purchased including tax. . . Pennies have virtually no value. Most people stash away or toss aside pennies instead of reusing them. . . If we reduce the use of the penny, we will



Pages from the Past

100 Years Ago

NOTING THE SUCCESS
of the ANA's 6th Conven-

tion, held in Buffalo, New York, Secretary Ed Frossard stated, "This is the first meeting of our Association when ladies have honored the occasion by their presence at our sessions. Miss Eaton being present as a member, also Mrs. W.O. Buck and, a member by proxy, remained during the deliberations. It is hoped this innovation will be more fully observed in the future, and that our lady members and the wives and daughters of our members may often and always grace our Conventions."

75 Years Ago

THE BALTIMORE AND Ohio Railroad purchased a large quantity of the newly minted Stone Mountain Memorial half dollars from the Stone Mountain Memorial Association at \$1 each, to be given as change (in face value) to patrons who purchased tickets or meals in the dining cars.

A COMMENTARY ABOUT the benefits of the hobby stated, "Collecting is something that lifts you out of the rut of everyday grind into the domain of romance and adventure. It may be only stamp collecting, antique chasing or autograph hunting—it doesn't matter what; if you have a fad, it's like golf—it will lengthen your life."

50 Years Ago

RECOGNIZING DEFICIENCIES OF previous classification systems, Melvin and George Fuld introduced a standardized method of cataloging tokens. The authors detailed an exhaustive system to identify tokens by state, number, type, decade, metal, size, variety and rarity.

—Jane L. Colvard
ANA Research Librarian

save businesses money and decrease the time we spend at the store."

I would like to share some comments regarding this proposal. To discontinue the cent by changing tax laws and convincing merchants to round to the nearest nickel will only confuse the general population, some of whom still believe the Sacagawea dollar contains a trace amount of gold. Rounding the tax to the nearest nickel and keeping the cent will cause Americans to use it more . . . five Lincoln cents or a nickel. I prefer common cents.

As for the comment that "U.S. coinage has not been significantly changed since 1857 when the half-cent piece was dropped," more obvious to the public perhaps was the discontinuation of the use of silver in our coinage in 1964. I imagine more Americans remember silver coins than know there once was a U.S. half-cent denomination. Lastly, citizens of the United States do not use "pennies." We use "cents."

I have forwarded my views to Representative Kolbe. I would encourage ANA members to read about the legislation on his web site and do the same.

Gar Travis, ANA 140899

Collector "Buffaloed" by Mint Sales Policies

After reading about the 2001 Buffalo dollar in the July issue ("Buffalo Dollar to Benefit National Museum of the American Indian," p. 773), I wanted to place an order. I called the U.S. Mint about five days after receiving my magazine on June 25. A Mint employee told me that all 500,000 pieces had sold in about two to three weeks (well before I even got my July issue). She said *she* didn't even know about the coin un-

til May, but that "collectors" had been inquiring well before that.

She told me each "collector" was allowed to purchase 20 coins. I wondered where they all went, so I searched on eBay. There they were, offered for an average of \$125 each. Since the issue price for proofs was \$37 each, that's a profit of more than 300 percent.

Obviously hoarders beat me to the punch. Speculators again gobbled up the supply, *creating* a shortage. Some re-sellers didn't even have their coins from the Mint yet and were stating a 30-day delivery date, hoping they would get them in time. One seller told me he has 80 coins for sale (a potential profit of \$7,040)! Sound like stock speculation?

I feel the Mint should limit purchases to five coins per buyer. It reminds me of kids at a birthday party rushing to the head of the line to grab as much cake as they can carry—too bad if the kids at the end of the line don't get any. This experience in "collecting" has left a bad taste in my mouth, but not as bad as eating too much birthday cake.

Jock Goodman, ANA 169541

Corrected Ordering Information on Irish £1 Note/Coin Sets

Editor's Note: The price quoted in the "New Issues" section of the June issue ("Bright Package Houses Last £1 Note/Coin Set," p. 773) for a set containing an Irish £1 note and proof £1 coin was incorrect. The set is available for £20, plus £10 postage for shipping outside Europe.

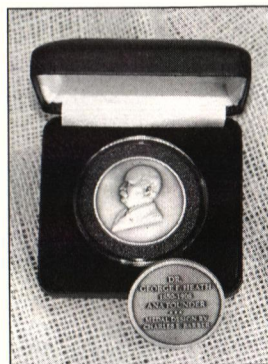
A sampling of Irish coins and notes is pictured and described on the Central Bank of Ireland web site (www.centralbank.ie). An order form can be downloaded and mailed to the Central Bank.

ANA Headquarters Renovation Fund

Donors Receive Commemorative Medal

Those who donate \$500 or more to the "ANA Target 2001" headquarters renovation fund receive a silver medal picturing Association founder George F. Heath. Struck by the Medalcraft Mint of Green Bay, Wisconsin, the commemorative is based on a galvano of Heath created by former United States Mint Engraver Charles Barber in the early 1900s. Use of the galvano was provided by ANA member Larry Baber of San Diego, California.

Life member John Nebel of Boulder, Colorado, received a medal for his recent contribution of \$15,000. This, combined with his previous \$10,000 donation, places him in the "Benefactor" category with Krause Publications. Many thanks to John and all who have supported this project. Direct donations of cash and material to "ANA Target 2001," 818 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279.



New Donations

July 2001

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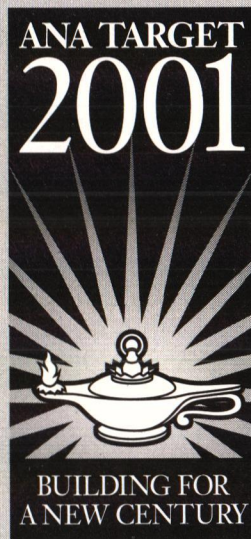
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TOTAL: \$260,680

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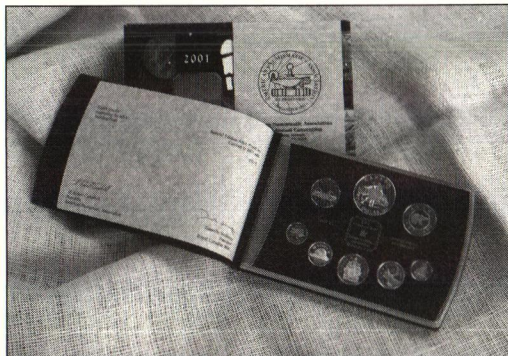


CANADA: Special-Edition Proof Sets to Benefit ANA HQ Renovation

At the ANA 110th Anniversary Convention in Atlanta in August, the Royal Canadian Mint (RCM) introduced special 2001 proof sets. For each set sold, the RCM will donate \$5 to the ANA's "Target 2001" headquarters renovation fund. The RCM's ANA edition is limited to 2,001 serially-numbered sets and could raise more than \$10,000 for the Association.

The 2001 proof set includes 1-, 5-, 10-, 25- and 50-cent pieces; \$1 and \$2 coins; and a National Ballet of Canada 50th Anniversary commemorative dollar. They are available for \$56 plus \$5 shipping and handling from the ANA MoneyMarket, 818 N. Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279; telephone 719/632-2646; E-mail anaent@money.org or on-line at the ANA web site, www.money.org.

The ANA headquarters renovation benefits when collectors purchase a specially prepared Canadian 2001 proof set. The Royal Canadian Mint will donate \$5 to the fund for each of the 2,001 sets sold. The eight-coin set includes the National Ballet of Canada 50th Anniversary commemorative dollar.



GERMANY: First Gold Coin since 1915 Commemorates the End of the Mark

The last time a gold coin was issued in Germany—88 years ago—the nation still was an empire. With the Deutsche-mark denomination set to be replaced by the euro, the Central Bank Council of the Deutsche Bundesbank decreed that a gold coin with a value stated in marks should be issued one, last time.

The commemorative 1-Deutsche mark, dated 2001, is basically identical in appearance, thickness and diameter (23.5mm) to the copper-nickel circulating coin of the same denomination. Since it is struck in .999 fine gold, it is heavier, weighing 11.85g. The obverse legend BUNDESREPUBLIK DEUTSCHLAND has been replaced by DEUTSCHE BUNDESBANK. An authorized mintage of 1 million coins has been established.

Germany's gold 1-Deutsche mark commemoratives, limited to two coins per order, can be purchased for \$229.50 each. Contact The Coin & Currency Institute, P.O. Box 1057, Clifton, NJ 07014; telephone toll-free 800/421-1866; fax 973/471-1062; or E-mail mail@coin-currency.com.



A .999 fine gold coin notes the passing of Germany's Deutsche-mark denomination.

SWITZERLAND: Heidi Springs to Life on Helvetica Coin

Switzerland's famous heroine, Heidi, comes to life on a new "Helvetica" commemorative coin from the Swiss Mint. The Heidi 50-franc gold piece joins a 20-franc silver coin dedicated to her creator, writer Johanna Spyri, who died 100 years ago.

Introduced in 1880, the story of the appealing Alpine girl was successful from the outset and since has been translated into around 50 languages. Some 50 million copies of



Swiss 20- and 50-franc coins honor, respectively, the centennial of the death of Johanna Spyri; and Heidi, the world-famous character she created.

Spyri's novel have been sold worldwide, and it has inspired numerous films, plays, operas and cartoons.

Both sides of the 2001 Heidi 50-franc gold proof were designed by Albrecht Schnider. The obverse shows the barefoot girl running with a goat; the reverse shows stylized mountains. Struck in .900 fine gold, the coin is limited to 7,000 proof coins in presentation cases. The issue price is 250 Swiss francs.

The 2001 Johanna Spyri 20-franc silver coin is the work of Sylvia Goeschke. The obverse bears a bust of the mature writer, with her name and birth and death dates (1827-1901). Forming the background on the reverse is a facsimile of Spyri's writing and signature. Mintage is limited to 100,000 uncirculated and 15,000 proof coins. The uncirculated

piece is priced at 20 Swiss francs; the proof is 50 Swiss francs.

Additional fees will be added for postage and handling. For further information or to be placed on a mailing list, contact the Swiss Mint, Marketing, Bernastrasse 28, CH-3003 Bern, Switzerland.

AUSTRIA: Holy Roman Empire Coin Features Charlemagne

The third coin in the "Austria through the Ages" series is dedicated to the Holy Roman Empire. The reverse features a portrait of Charlemagne, who was crowned by Pope Leo III as Emperor of the Romans on Christmas Day 800. The obverse depicts the most important items of imperial regalia kept in the Treasury



Actual Size: 34mm

An Austrian 100 schilling bears a portrait of Charlemagne, adapted from a statue in a church he founded in 801 on his way home from his imperial coronation in Rome.

in Vienna: his crown, orb and sword.

The Holy Roman Empire proof 100 schilling is struck in .900 fine silver; mintage is limited to 50,000 coins. It is priced at \$39.50 from Euro Collections International, telephone toll-free 888/904-5544, E-mail eurocollections.com. The series will continue with the Middle Ages. •

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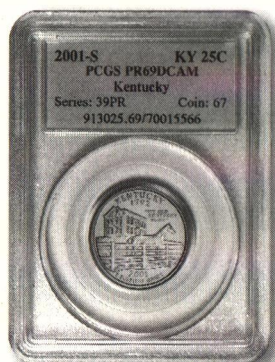
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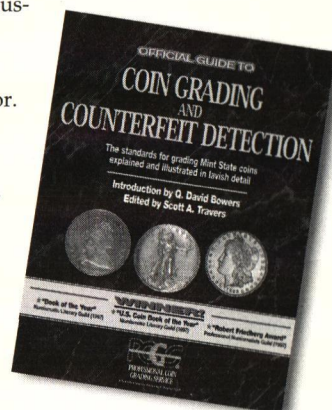
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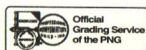
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NUMISMATIC NARRATIVES

Cleopatra Visits Chicago's Field Museum

More than 2,000 years after her death, Cleopatra stands among the most famous, and controversial, historical figures of all time. Now an intriguing, new exhibit at Chicago's Field Museum explores the many aspects of this multi-faceted woman, her culture and her times. "Cleopatra of Egypt: From History to Myth" brings together more than 350 artifacts and ancient works of art on loan from The British Museum and other great museums of the world. This archaeological evidence, including sculpture, coins, metalwork, jewelry, frescoes and mosaics, aids in uncovering the truth about a truly legendary figure.

Discover the real Cleo for yourself from October 20, 2001, through March 3, 2002. Tickets sell for \$10, plus regular museum admission. Discounted combination tickets also are available. Consult Ticketmaster at 312/902-1500; or visit the museum's web site at www.fieldmuseum.org.

U.S. Mint Partners with Baseball Team

The United States Mint announced on July 18 that the Trenton Thunder Baseball Club, a Boston Red Sox AA affiliate, is circulating Sacagawea dollars routinely at its Waterfront Park stadium during the 2001 baseball season. The Trenton Thunder organization has committed to dispense the coins as change from its ticket office, gift shop, concession stands and parking lot at each home



Not Actual Size

The many faces of Cleopatra are revealed in a new exhibit "Cleopatra of Egypt: From History to Myth" coming to Chicago's Field Museum in October. The various interpretations of the legendary figure are revealed in many works of art, including the bronze 80-drachma coin featured at the left. Issued by the Mint of Alexandria in 51-30 B.C., the coin was part of the queen's radical reform efforts to debase Egypt's silver coinage and make it compatible with the Roman denarius, while increasing long-ignored bronze production. Experts surmise that this marble bust of Cleopatra (right) was sculpted when she was in Rome and may closely reflect her actual appearance (as opposed to the Hellenistic coinage portraits).

THE FIELD MUSEUM

game. In addition, each cash register features advertising that promotes consumer circulation of the coin.

"The Trenton Thunder is proud to be the first baseball team to partner with the U.S. Mint to encourage the use of the golden dollar," says Rick Brenner, the team's general manager and chief operating officer. "Using golden dollars is such an easy thing to do. Dollar coins are fast and convenient for our cashiers and fans to use. And they're fun."

Central America Gold Slugs to Be Restruck

An original pair of assayer's dies and authentic California Gold Rush-era

ingots recovered from the S.S. *Central America* shipwreck will be used to restrick special commemorative gold pieces replicating 1855 Kellogg & Humbert \$50 gold slugs. The cameo proof and uncirculated restrikes, each containing 2.5 ounces of pure gold, will be produced by the California Historical Society, headquartered in San Francisco.

"Transfer dies have been prepared from the original 1855 Kellogg & Humbert dies engraved by Ferdinand Gruner, and the planchets are made from . . . gold bars from the ship's 1857 cargo," says Dwight Manley, managing partner of California Gold Marketing Group (which owns the recovered treasure).

"In addition, the coins will be struck in San Francisco on a press that was used at the San Francisco Mint."

A trial-strike specimen was on display at the ANA's World's Fair of Money® in Atlanta, August 8 through 12. Formal striking of the commemoratives was scheduled to begin on August 20, the anniversary of the date the gold left California for Panama, where it was transferred to the doomed *Central America*. Because of the limited supply of authentic ingots, a maximum of 5,000 restrikes has been authorized.

Numismatic Exhibit Opens in Michigan

A numismatic display will debut at the Public Museum of Grand Rapids' Van Andel Museum Center in Grand

Rapids, Michigan, on October 1. The permanent exhibit, "N is for Numismatics," is part of the facility's "Collecting A to Z" series and will feature "a dazzling array of hundreds of things, from recent pieces to others thousands of years old and originating in places ranging from China to Singapore . . . Singapore, Michigan, that is," explains Public Relations Manager Pete Daly. More information is available at the museum's web site, www.grmuseum.org, or telephone 616/456-3977.

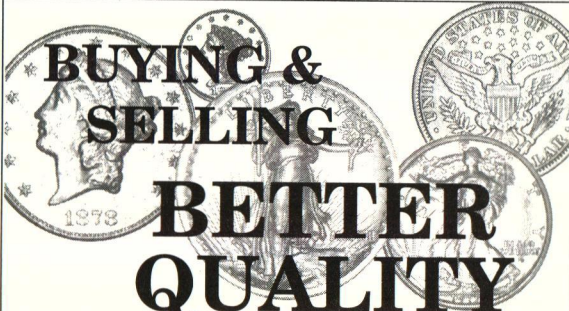
Buffalo Sets Sell Quickly

On June 12, the United States Mint posted a "sold out" notice on its web site (www.usmint.gov) for the limited-edition American Buffalo Coinage and Currency Sets. With a

mintage of 50,000, the sets were first available for purchase on June 7 for \$54.95 each. The quick turnover attests to the popularity of the commemorative design and the growing interest in United States coinage.

Superior Galleries Sold

On July 6, Tangible Asset Galleries (TAG) of Newport Beach, California, purchased "substantially all" the assets of Superior Galleries of Beverly Hills for a reported \$901,000. The wholly-owned subsidiary will change its name to Superior Galleries, Inc., and deal in rare coins and other collectibles via gallery sales, and live and on-line auctions. The seller will become A-Mark Auction Galleries, Inc. Visit TAG's web site at www.tagz.com.



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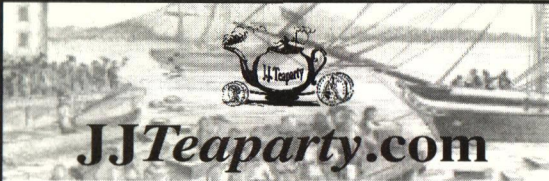
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ANCIENT ART FOR SALE

SYRACUSE DECADRACHM

BY KIMON



This huge silver coin was struck in the Greek colony of Syracuse on the island of Sicily about 400 B.C. This decadrachm weighs 43.51 grams of near fine silver and is struck by unsigned dies engraved by the famous artist Kimon. The obverse depicts a charioteer driving a quadriga at full gallop. Nike is flying above, crowning the driver with a victory wreath. Below the exergual line are a military harness, shield, greaves, cuirass and helmet, all connected by a horizontal spear. The Greek letters for ATHLA below these objects name them as the prize for the victor of the contest.

The reverse depicts the head of Arethusa in superb classical style. The artistic beauty of this coin has made this design one of the most famous of all time. The nymph Arethusa is wearing a pendant earring and beaded necklace, with her hair up in an open weave sakkos. Four dolphins swim around her and the city name of Syracuse, behind her head, is mostly off the flan.

This coin is pedigreed back to a Hirsch Auction XXXIV, May 5, 1914 and is the coin, plate 36-37, in *Uomo e Cavallo Sulla Moneta Greca*, by Giacosa, and the coin, pl. xxiv, 1 in *Greek Coins*, by Charles Seltman. EF, with smooth perfect surfaces, \$37,000.



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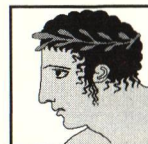
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Early Children's Counting Books

by L.D. Mitchell
ANA LM 3445

"That Twenty Shillings are a Pound . . ." and similar rhyming text from books first published in the early 1800s taught children social and monetary concepts.



Traditionally, schoolchildren learned the values of their elders through primers and books of instruction. The rhymes in counting books taught youngsters not only about money, but also the cultural mores of the society they inhabited.

ONCE UPON A time, a long time ago, children did not learn about money or other aspects of the world they lived in by sitting in front of a television set all day. Rather, they learned about society and how to get along in it, including how to count and handle money, by reading primers and books of instruction. And "thereby hangs the tale."

From a Historical Perspective

CHILDREN'S BOOKS—THAT is, books that are designed to amuse and divert even when education is the primary objective—did not exist in great numbers before the mid 1700s. In fact, prior to John Newbery's publication of *Pretty Pocket Book* in 1744, children's reading material consisted mainly of religious tracts. It was only after Newbery opened for business at "the Sign of the Bible and Sun in St. Paul's Churchyard," London, that children's books as we know them today began to be published in earnest.

*That Twenty Shillings are a Pound
Is known full well the World around.
And Thirty Shillings, One Pound Ten,
The Poet's fortune, now, and then.*

In the 250-plus years that have elapsed, children's books, especially in the English-speaking world, have drawn upon a tradition of myth, folklore and romance to peddle instruction in the guise of entertainment. Out of this rich mixture have come the countless nursery rhymes whose form and meter comprise the foundation of what we immediately recognize as "children's literature." Amusement and instruction (and some

delightful illustrations) are intertwined in some of the most interesting children's literature ever published—money-counting books.

Entertainment combined with education is not a particularly surprising goal. Although parents usually buy a child's books, they often do so at the child's urging. If a publisher can attract the parents with education and the child with fun, then the publisher's product not only will sell, but also will be read. Children's money-counting books clearly fall within the duality of this mandate for publishing success.

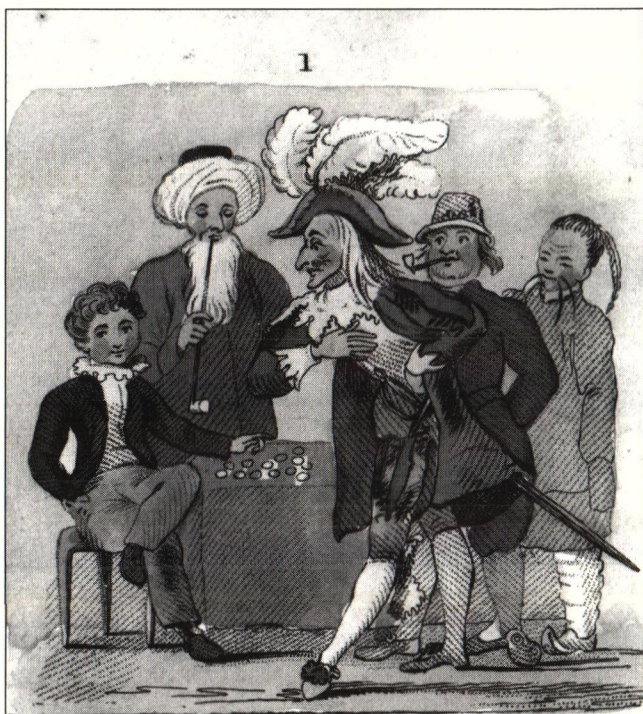
Regrettably, the earliest money-counting books are rare. (Several particularly nice examples survive as part of the Elisabeth Ball Collection of Historical Children's Materials at Indiana University's Lilly Library in Bloomington, Indiana.) Usually bound in stiff, drab, paper covers and printed on paper that rarely was of high quality, the first children's books seldom were the "honoured treasures of a fine library," as F.J. Harvey Darton concluded in his text *Children's Books in England: Five Centuries of Social Life*. Rather, these instructional tomes "suffered the fiercest form of attrition to which printed matter can be subjected—daily use" and, often, willful destruction.

However, it may be seen from the few surviving examples that most early children's money-counting books have much in common. Their form and meter, for example, are closely patterned after those of nursery rhymes.

Apart from similarities in content, these fragile, little books share physical characteristics: They tend to be "squarish" (commonly 130 x 100mm); none exceed 16 pages in length; and all have engravings (usually hand-colored) that share equal space with the text.

The counting-book "formula" prevailed for a valid reason. "What is cast in rhyme and metre is most quickly learned and most readily recalled," distinguished historian of children's literature Percy Muir points out in *English Children's Books 1600-1900*.

*Twenty pence are one and eight pence.
Wash your face and comb your hair.
Thirty pence are two and six pence,
Every day to school repair.*



**That Twenty Shillings are a Pound
Is known full well the World around .**

Published March 1819 by J. Harris & Son, corner of St. Paul's Church Yard

The first page of Harris's Cabinet, published in March 1819, carries a rhyme about counting shillings and pounds.

COURTESY OF THE LILLY LIBRARY, INDIANA UNIVERSITY, BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

The Pence Table in Verse was first published in London in 1830 by D. Carvalho. Illustrations and rhymes like the ones pictured here provide contemporary readers with a quick glimpse at early 19th-century lifestyles.

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THE PENCE TABLE IN VERSE.

By the Author of "Multiplication Table in Verse."



Twenty Pence is one & eight pence,
This in Paper out I laid,
Twenty Four is just two shillings,
This I for a Tutor paid.

PENCE TABLE IN VERSE.



Seventy Pence is five and ten pence,
This to all must clearly be,
Seventy five is six and three pence,
Which my Uncle gave to me.

An Individual Approach to Design

ILLUSTRATIONS FOR THESE influential little texts were specially commissioned. Artists were instructed to "provide a pattern in which broad blocks of simple colours [could be] employed," notes Philip James in *Children's Books of Yesterday*. Such patterns were important for counting books, as well as early children's books in general, because the pages were hand-colored—and not by artists. As James explains, "The colouring was done by children in their teens, who worked with astonishing celerity and more precision than could be expected. They sat round a table, each with a little pan of water-colour, a brush, a partly coloured copy as a guide, and a pile of printed sheets. One child would put on the red, wherever it appeared in the copy; another followed, say, with the yellow, and so on until the colouring was finished."

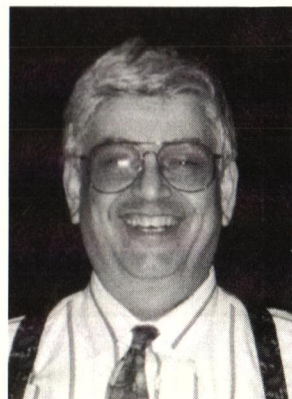
Comparison of different copies of the same edition of a text suggests that more than one child usually applied a particular color, "as the shades of colouring differ considerably" from copy to copy.

*Twelve pence, is one shilling,
Honest Kate, to work is willing,
Twenty shillings, make a pound,
This by saving, Kitty found.*

continued on page 1056

WHO AM I?

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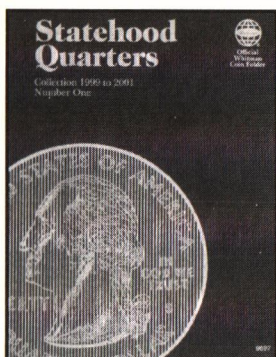


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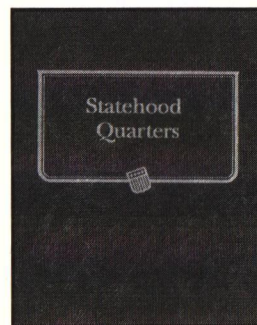
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St. Martin's Press

An Analysis of 1796-97 Draped Bust Half Dollars

Distinguished by its diminutive eagle, this early 50-cent piece is one of America's rarest coins.

by Jon P. Amato
ANA 113962

THE DRAPED BUST half dollar with "small eagle" reverse, bearing the dates 1796 and 1797, is one of the great rarities of American numismatics. With a combined mintage of just 3,918 pieces for both years, it is considered by many professional numismatists to be the rarest United States silver type coin, if indeed not one of the rarest of all U.S. type coins. The 1796 issue has the lowest mintage of the series, estimated in Al Overton's *Early Half Dollar Die Varieties* (updated by Don Parsley in 1990) to be approximately 934 coins, or about 24 percent of the total two-year production.

Each date has two die varieties. Variety 1 of the 1796 issue features 15 stars on the obverse, while Variety 2 has 16 stars. Regarding the 1797 issue, the reverse of Variety 1 shows a leaf tip pointing between the O and F of OF; on Variety 2, the leaf tip is even with and touches the F of OF. Overton/Parsley estimate that the 15-star variety of 1796 half dollar accounts for 569 coins, and the 16-star variety, 365 coins. The two 1797 varieties have an estimated combined mintage of 2,984 pieces.

Relatively few specimens of the 1796-97 half dollar are thought to have survived. In *Early Half Dollar Die Varieties*, the authors assign the 1796 15-star variety a rarity rating of "5" (31 to 80 specimens known); the 16-star variety has a rarity rating of "6" (13 to 30 specimens known).



Actual Size: 32.5mm

Designed by Robert Scot and struck from 1796 to 1797, the Draped Bust half dollar with "small eagle" reverse is one of the rarest series in United States coinage. This specimen is an example of the 16-star variety. ANA ARCHIVES

TABLE I
Example of Data Collected on 1796-97 Half Dollars (for 1990-99)

I.D. NO.	DATE & VARIETY	GRADE	SOURCE	COLLECTION/ PEDIGREE	APPEARANCE DATE	PRICE (\$)	DESCRIPTION
4	1796 16 stars (O-102a)	F-12 to F-15	Bowers & Merena Sale (Lot 1013)	Greenwich Collection	Jan 24-25, 1991	13,750	Golden gray; die cracks connect first four stars to rim; largely mark-free (photo)
42	1797 (O-101a)	VF-30 (NGC)	Heritage Long Beach Sale (Lot 6747)	NA	Sept 24-25, 1998	23,000	Light silver gray; excellent surfaces (photo)
50	1796 15 stars (O-101)	MS-62 (NGC)	Delaware Valley Rare Coin Co.	NA	Jan 25, 1999	95,000	Light to medium toning; lighter in center

The two 1797 varieties each have a rarity rating of "5." Thus, 44 to 110 1796-dated half dollars and 62 to 160 1797-dated specimens are estimated to be extant.

David W. Lange, in an April 1990 article in *The Numismatist*, provides another rarity estimate for these 50-cent pieces. He states that "there are not many more than 100 survivors."

Some auction catalogs also give estimates for surviving 1796-97 half dollars. For example, the catalog for Heritage Numismatic Auctions' September 1998 Long Beach (California) sale notes that "there are perhaps 150 to 200 that survive, mostly in very low grades." A catalog issued by Auctions by Bowers and Merena for the 1997 sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg Sr. Collection states that "not more than a few hundred specimens exist of these issues." For the 1797 date, the catalog estimates 200 or so extant.

While attempts have been made to estimate the survival rates of the 1796-97 half dollar, little can be found in the numismatic literature about the grade distribution of surviving specimens. It is assumed, from what I have read in dealers' price lists/newsletters, auction catalogs and general numismatic articles dealing with the series, that the few surviving examples are in "low grades" or otherwise impaired. A December 1994 Heritage price list states that 1796-97 half dollars "are not usually seen above the VG [Very Good]-Fine grade level." Walter Breen, describing the four varieties in his *Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins*, noted that they are "usually in low grades."

Bowers and Merena's Eliasberg catalog is more specific about the grade distribution of surviving 1796-97 half dollars, particularly uncir-

culated specimens: "Walter Breen notes that of 1796 half dollars with 15 stars . . . there are known today perhaps eight or ten uncirculated pieces . . . , and at least three which may have been presentation pieces." For the 1796 16-star variety, the catalogers indicate that "just two or three strictly Mint State pieces [are] accounted for. The same statement can be said for 1797 . . . in uncirculated preservation, but not quite so rare as the 1796 with 16 stars."

The Eliasberg catalog also notes that in circulated condition, the 1796-97 half dollars "are seen in all grades from Good or less through Extremely Fine. Probably the typical worn example ranges from Good to Fine, although there seem to be a number of examples hovering around the Fine classification, straining but falling short of the Very Fine mark. Of the known specimens in Extremely Fine and About Uncirculated, most seem to be dated 1796."

Methodology

IN AN EFFORT to determine how many 1796-97 half dollars have, in fact, survived, and to what degree of preservation, I systematically tracked their appearance in fixed-price lists and at auction for the period 1990 through 1999. Price-list information was obtained from advertisements in major numismatic publications, such as *Numismatic News*, *Coin World* and *The Numismatist*; dealer newsletters; and the Internet. Auction information was obtained from pre-event coverage, advertisements and reported results in *Numismatic News* and *Coin World*; auction catalogs; and the Internet.

In all, I documented 81 1796-97 half dollars. I assigned an identification number to each and recorded the following information:

- Date (1796 or 1797)
- Overton variety (if listed); if not, whether 15 or 16 stars (1796 only)
- Grade assigned by the dealer, auction house or third-party grading service
- Source of information (name of dealer or auction house)
- Name of the collection and pedigree (if given)
- Date of price list or auction
- Dealer's listed price, or auction price realized (if available)
- Description, such as toning, strike, adjustment marks, cleaning, scratches, damage, etc. (if provided)

(Table 1 offers examples of the collected data; a complete report is available to interested readers.)

Analysis

THE HALF DOLLARS under study are summarized in Table 2 by grade, date, number of stars (1796 only), identification number, grading service and quantity. If no grading service is indicated, the coins are not certified ("raw"). Specimens with intermediate grades are rounded down to



Actual Size: 32.5mm

Two varieties of the 1797 half dollar are known. Each has 15 stars on the obverse and a rarity rating of "5."

ANA ARCHIVES

TABLE 2
1796-97 Half Dollars by Date, Star Variety and Grade (for 1990-99)
with Possible Duplicate Specimens*

.....

I.D. NUMBER & GRADING SERVICE** (IF APPLICABLE)

GRADE	1796 15 STARS	1796 16 STARS	1796 STARS UNKNOWN	1797	QTY.
Poor		51			1
Fair				17 (PCGS)	1
AG-3		9		12, 29	3
G-4					0
G-6				26 (PCGS)	1
VG-8				25 (ANACS), 31 (ANACS), 45, 65	4
VG-10				28 (NGC), 43 (PCGS), 48 (PCGS)	3
F-12	3, 59, 62 (PCGS)	4		6 (PCGS), 8, 10, 15 (ANACS); 21 (PCGS), 32 (PCGS), 36 (PCGS), 39 (PCGS), 81 (PCGS)	13
F-15	75	38 (PCGS)		19, 54 (NGC), 80 (NGC)	5
VF-20	2	67, 69		1 (ANACS), 7 (PCGS), 11 (PCGS), 41 (NGC), 53 (NGC), 79, 33 (NGC)	10
VF-25				44 (PCGS), 68, 70	3
VF-30		5 (PCGS), 63 (PCGS)		27 (PCGS), 35 (NGC), 42 (NGC), 52 (NGC), 64 (PCGS), 76	8
VF-35		73 (NGC)			1
EF-40	74 (NGC)			20 (ANACS), 78	3
EF-45		40 (NGC), 46 (NGC)		37, 47 (PCGS), 55 (NGC), 66 (PCGS)	6
AU-50				18	1
AU-55			71 (NGC)	60 (NGC)	2
AU-58				30 (PCGS)	1
MS-60	72			24	2
MS-61				49 (NGC)	1
MS-62	50 (NGC)				1
MS-63	22	23		14 (PCGS)	3
MS-64	57, 58	13 (NGC), 34 (NGC), 61 (NGC)		77 (NGC)	6
MS-65				16	1
MS-66		56			1
Total	11	16	1	53	81

* Possible duplicates denoted by boldface type

** ANACS, Numismatic Guaranty Corporation (NGC), Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS)

the next full grade, while those with different grades for obverse and reverse are assigned the lower of the two.

Before drawing any conclusions on what the distribution of these coins tells us about surviving 1796-97 half dollars, it is necessary to account for possible duplicate specimens. (In Table 2, these are highlighted in bold-face type.) Multiple coins of a particular date/star variety that are raw or have been graded by the same certification service are considered possible "repeat" specimens. Forty-eight of the 81 coins fall into this category. (The only exceptions are coins "57" and "58," both raw 1796 15-star specimens in Mint State (MS)-64. These are separate coins from the John Whitney Walter Collection, sold by Stack's on May 4, 1999.)

Possible duplicates were further scrutinized by comparing available information on variety, collection name/pedigree, appearance date, and

continued on page 1088

TABLE 3
Example of Comparative Analysis of
Possible Duplicates of 1796-97 Half Dollars (for 1990-99)

I.D. NO./ GRADING SERVICE*	OVERTON VARIETY	SOURCE	COLLECTION/ PEDIGREE	APPEARANCE DATE	DESCRIPTION
1796, 16 Stars (EF-45)					
40 (NGC)	102	Heritage Auction (Lot 6745)	Byron Reed Collection; Daw- son Collection	Sept 24-25, 1998	Steel gray; marks on Liberty's neck; scalloped marks below eagle's head (photo)
46 (NGC)	NA	David Lawrence	NA	Jan 25, 1999	Medium to dark color; problem-free
Comments: Probably two different coins.					
1797 (EF-45)					
37	101a	Stack's	NA	Apr 27, 1998	Surfaces display good luster; close to About Uncirculated
47 (PCGS)	NA	Heritage	NA	Jan-Feb 1999	NA
66 (PCGS)	NA	Kingswood Auction	NA	Aug 18-19, 1999	Silver gray; almost perfect surfaces

Comments: Based on current information, all are presumed to be the same specimen.

* Numismatic Guaranty Corporation (NGC), Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS)

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Tangible Asset Galleries paid \$1,210,000 for this 1907 Ultra High Relief PCF.

Lorenzo de' Medici and the Pursuit of Numismatics

by Jason F. Kuhl
ANA 136524

Reflecting the ideals and interests of Renaissance Italy, Lorenzo de' Medici assembled a collection of ancient coins that influenced literature, art and architecture.



Not Actual Size

A medal by Bertoldo di Giovanni illustrates the 1478 Pazzi conspiracy in the Florence cathedral, in which Giuliano de' Medici was stabbed to death and his brother Lorenzo escaped with a neck wound.

IT IS 1478. Lorenzo de' Medici makes his way through throngs of well-wishers to arrive at his welcoming palace on the Via Larga. As he proceeds to the mansion's inner sanctum, the sounds of the city recede, the shouting becomes but a faint whisper. On a typical day, Florentines would have been minding their shops, tending their fields or working in the factories that produced the city's famed woolen cloth. Today, having witnessed the hanging of Lorenzo's would-be assassins, they are in no mood for work.

Entering his study, Lorenzo bolts the door, shutting away the outside world. His heart is heavy, for the assassins slayed his brother, Giuliano, before their ill-fated attempt on his own life. Lorenzo now is sole ruler of Florence. He makes his way to a shelf at the far end of the room to retrieve a small, nondescript wooden box. Carefully opening it, he removes a small, silver object. Gazing at the portrait on the denarius, he wonders how Hadrian felt on his first day as Roman emperor.

For most of us, the Italian Renaissance brings to mind great artists like Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci. Some also might recall Lorenzo de' Medici (*Il Magnifico*, "The Magnificent"), head of the powerful Medici banking family and unofficial ruler of Florence—hub of the early Italian Renaissance—from 1478 until his death in 1492. A true "Renaissance man," he opened his home to many of the most prominent artists and thinkers of the day. He, himself, was an exceptional poet. His greatest love, however, was collecting manuscripts, jewels and antiquities.

Lorenzo's passion for collecting led him into the budding science of numismatics, and he assembled one of the greatest coin collections the

THOUGH IMPRESSIVE AT the time, these numbers are paltry considering that Lorenzo enlarged the family collection to more than 2,300 coins.

.....

world has ever seen. His collection not only reflected the attraction numismatics held for the wealthy but also influenced some of the greatest artists of the Italian Renaissance.

Origins of the Medici Collection

THE MEDICIS' RISE to power in Florence began with Lorenzo's great-grandfather Giovanni di Bicci de' Medici, who amassed great wealth by lending money at high interest rates. This led to the creation of the Medici bank, which Giovanni passed down to his son Cosimo. Though Florence officially was a republic, true power belonged to the wealthy and well-connected, and Cosimo realized the importance of forming ties with the most influential figures of the day. His network eventually extended as high as the Papacy in Rome. Soon he became—in everything but name—the sole ruler of Florence.

Cosimo also started the Medici tradition of patronage of the arts. The list of artists with whom he associated reads like a textbook on the history of art, including Filippo Brunelleschi, Fra Angelico and Donatello. In addition to commissioning works, Cosimo began assembling what would be one of the world's greatest collections of precious objects and antiquities.

After his death, Cosimo's collection went to his son Piero, who expanded it by acquiring numerous ancient manuscripts. He also prepared the oldest surviving inventory of the collection. In 1456 it numbered 53 gold, 300 silver and 33 bronze pieces; a count taken nine years later totaled 100 gold and 503 silver coins. Though impressive at the time, these numbers are paltry considering that Lorenzo enlarged the family collection to more than 2,300 coins.

When Piero died in 1469, his son Lorenzo took control of the city. Though his ancestors were brilliant politicians and statesmen, none possessed his love of learning. As a boy, he enjoyed studying Dante and Ovid, and he became an accomplished poet. Much of his interest can be attributed to a movement that swept Italy during his formative years and changed the way Italians viewed history, education and ancient coins.

The Emergence of Humanism

A DEFINING CHARACTERISTIC of the Renaissance was a widespread obsession with the life and culture of ancient Greeks and Romans. The reason for this intense interest is complicated. It is only natural that people living in Italy, literally surrounded by the remnants of ancient civi-



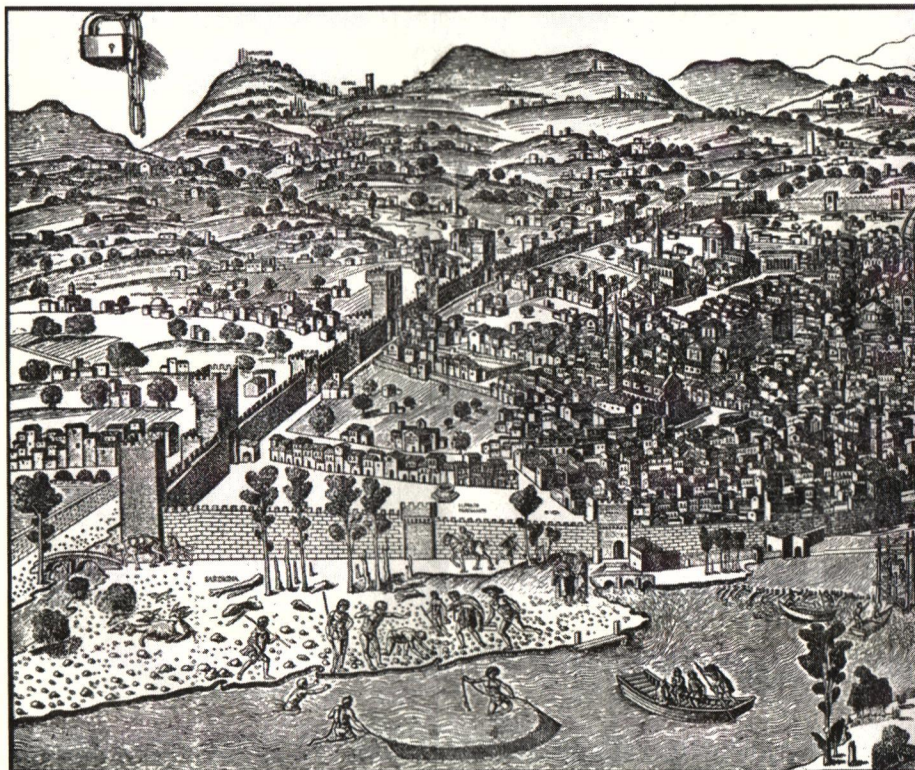
Not Actual Size

On a medal probably issued between 1465 and 1469, Cosimo de' Medici (1389-1464) is described as "Pater Patriae," a title given him after his death.



Not Actual Size

Lorenzo de' Medici is depicted on a medal created around 1490 by Niccolò Fiorentino.



Born into a family of collectors, Lorenzo de' Medici was looked upon as a connoisseur of precious objects.

lizations, would want to learn about the lives of those who inhabited the area before them. During the Renaissance, this inquisitiveness reached new heights.

One outgrowth of this fascination with ancient culture was a branch of learning known as humanism. Early humanists were interested primarily in acquiring and reading Latin and Greek manuscripts. They became involved with the themes and ideas while translating the text, and began advocating a system of education that emphasized the subjects most revered in ancient Greece and Rome: philosophy, history, rhetoric, etc. Most schools emphasized theology and shunned all knowledge produced by non-Christian peoples; with the rise of humanism, schools formed to educate students in the classical manner. Cosimo established the famed Platonic Academy in Florence, where Christian theology was combined with Plato's ideas to form a branch of philosophy known as Neo-Platonism.

A Connoisseur by Nature

BORN INTO ONE of the greatest collecting families of all time and raised among the most important humanist thinkers, it is not surprising that Lorenzo would investigate and acquire ancient objects. In his study of Medici politics, J.R. Hale discusses an event that showcased the young Lorenzo's interest in collecting. One of Lorenzo's first political duties



The city of Florence as it appeared in the time of Lorenzo de' Medici, "Il Magnifico" (1449-92).

was to serve as Florence's ambassador to the coronation of Pope Sixtus IV. Rather than being awestruck by the historic event, it seems he was more excited by the opportunity to add to his collection of ancient objects: "I was received with great respect, and brought back with me two antique busts, the one of Augustus, the other of Agrippa, that the Pope gave me; the cup of carved chalcedony and a number of cameos and medals I bought there."

Upon inheriting the family collection, Lorenzo began to add to it. Although he was fabulously wealthy, he was known to bypass items he believed to be overpriced. Hale summarizes his attitude best: "Piero had been known as the possessor of precious objects, while Lorenzo was looked upon as a connoisseur." To Lorenzo, each piece was a source of knowledge to be studied, shared and discussed. He often allowed scholars and friends to examine his new acquisitions.

The Medicis were not the only collectors of their day. Greek and Roman objects and works of art were popular with the wealthiest Italian families. Collecting became a symbol of nobility and mandatory for every educated Florentine. Authors Anna Maria Massinelli and Filippo Tuena suggest that collecting came into vogue because many Roman emperors were themselves collectors. Renaissance Florentines saw themselves as "reviving a classical tradition."



Not Actual Size

By owning a coin that portrayed Augustus (top) or Hadrian (bottom), Renaissance Italians may have thought they could come closer to embodying the ideals of ancient Rome.

Like many collectors today, Lorenzo may have used his holdings as an escape from the monotony of daily life. Hale suggests that Lorenzo was not altogether comfortable with ruling Florence and maintaining the Medici bank. Groomed from childhood as heir to the family fortune and name, he accepted his role and performed flawlessly. At the same time, he may have yearned for more scholarly pursuits and relief from the tedium of his duties. Hale also believes "the objects in his collection had a talismanic force for him." While this may seem strange, it goes a long way toward understanding the popularity of numismatics at the time.

The Attraction of Ancient Coins

WHILE HIS ANCESTORS were most interested in commissioning and collecting large-scale works of painting and sculpture, Lorenzo seemed more excited by smaller, more precious pieces. In an essay on Medici art patronage, E.H. Gombrich notes Lorenzo had a very close relationship with sculptor Bertoldo di Giovanni, whose work consisted primarily of small, bronze-relief sculptures and statuettes. This indicates a certain preference for delicate pieces that could be handled and examined; ancient coins certainly fit this description.

Lorenzo was able to increase the size of his collection by acquiring the holdings of Pope Paul II when he died in 1471. In his study of Renaissance numismatics, Roberto Weiss notes that Paul II, considered the greatest coin collector of the time, could instantly identify the emperor on any Roman coin issued. On one occasion, he was known to have dispatched an assistant to obtain an entire hoard that had been unearthed. Though some ancient coins had been passed down through generations, hoards unearthed by farmers were the major source of new material for collectors. By Lorenzo's time, collectors were numerous enough to have all but exhausted the available supply of ancient coins in Italy.

One reason coin collecting attained such popularity during the Renaissance was that in comparison to other ancient objects, coins were relatively inexpensive and affordable for the minor gentry. In his masterful *Images of the Illustrious*, John Cunnally reports that the 503 Roman silver coins listed in the 1465 Medici inventory were assigned a total value of 100 florins, while a single intaglio featuring Apollo and Marsyas was valued at 1,000 florins. It also seems one could be respected as a collector without holding a very large number of coins. Bartolomeo Bianchini of Bologna, for example, was famous for his collection, which included only 138 silver and 8 gold coins.

There were less tangible reasons for collecting coins. Educated Italians may have seen owning an ancient coin as a way of possessing a piece of the past, a tremendously important concept in the humanistic environment. Weiss points out that many of the greatest humanist scholars had coin collections and often used specimens to support their arguments.

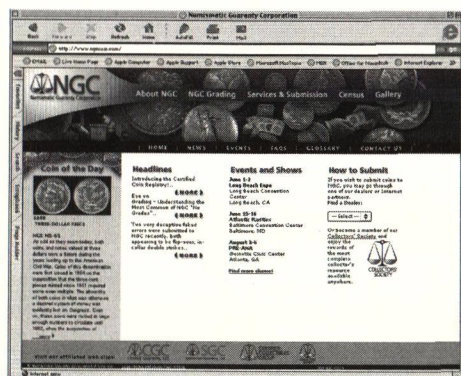
continued on page 1095

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History of the Dahlonega Mint

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE United States Branch Mint in Dahlonega, Georgia, was a problematic process, fraught with difficulties and mismanagement. Although the new facility's roof leaked and not all construction was completed, coin presses were scheduled to run in 1838.

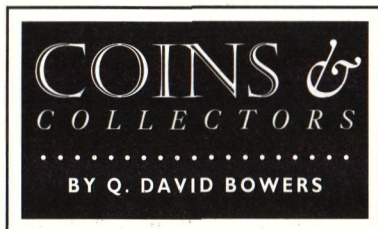
Early Operations

By the end of January 1838, Mint officers and staff workmen were on the scene. Coiner David H. Mason had arrived, bringing with him two pairs of half eagle dies. For much of the preceding year, he had worked at the Philadelphia Mint with Chief Coiner Adam Eckfeldt and his assistant, Franklin Peale. Mason's first duty at the Dahlonega Mint was to fix the well that supplied water to the steam engine powering the coin presses.

General discord characterized the work atmosphere at Dahlonega. Bickering and rumors were the daily fare. Mason and Assayer Joseph W. Farnum, for example, engaged in a particularly bitter feud. They finally reconciled upon hearing that Superintendent Joseph J. Singleton wanted to fire both of them. The pair then campaigned to have Singleton replaced.

Despite the administrative and construction difficulties, coinage production commenced in April. On the 21st, the steam press (which was capable of spewing out coins at the rate of 50 to 60 per minute) struck 80 gold half eagles (\$5 pieces). One specimen was reserved for the Assay Commission, with the other 79 destined for circulation. Numismatic researcher R.W. Julian relates:

A peculiar feature of the branch mint coinage was that prior to the preparation of *planchets* a "slip" (or



sliver of metal) was shaved from each melt of gold and sent to [Mint Director] Patterson to be assayed by Jacob Eckfeldt of the Philadelphia Mint. Then when [Superintendent] Singleton had received word from Philadelphia that the melt was of correct fineness (within legal tolerances) he issued the coins that had been struck in the meantime.

With this absurd system in effect, one naturally wonders what would have happened had some of the slips gone astray and never arrived at Eckfeldt's assaying emporium in Philadelphia. Well, just this very thing happened to melt slips #9, 11, 12, and 14, which were robbed from the mail by a postmaster living about 20 miles from Dahlonega. Singleton

started writing more letters inquiring about when he could release those coins to depositors who were clamoring for them, but Patterson didn't get all of those letters either, because the wily mailman stole some of these too. The light-fingered roadblock was putting quite a crimp in branch operations.

The crime was solved by mid October, but unfortunately Singleton had neglected to take the precaution of keeping duplicate melt slips. The superintendent had to authorize the hammering of three coins to send as slips for assaying. (Thus, although a total of 20,586 half eagles were struck at Dahlonega in 1838—exclusive of 41 official assay pieces—only 20,583 were reported as coinage.) Contrary to policy, Singleton released the first group of half eagles into local circulation before receiving permission from Philadelphia.

Pressing Issues

Superintendent Singleton apparently believed there were problems with the steam-powered presses and wanted to use old, manual screw



presses. Mason disagreed, as did Patterson, who wrote:

I find that you have had some difficulty with the power press. It was to be anticipated; but you are much deceived if you suppose the hand press would not have required equal attention. . . . I pray you not to think of using the screw press. This is not the age in the country for going backwards.

Dies made in Philadelphia were shipped unhardened to Dahlonega, so they would be of little use if stolen. In the Branch Mint's machine shop, the dies were hardened by heating, then quenching. The process produced black scales on the face of each die that had to be removed by filing or turning with a lathe. Often, this was crudely accomplished. In addition, dies stored

in Dahlonega's vault sometimes rusted, resulting in coins with rough, irregular surfaces.

During 1838, gold was supplied mostly by regional banks, much to Assayer Farnum's concern. There was not sufficient newly mined gold to keep the Mint busy. Even utilizing foreign coins, such as 327.2 ounces in British sovereigns melted and converted into 1,253 half eagles, the staff was not fully employed.

An Initial Review

The 1838 *Annual Report of the Director of the Mint* stated:

The branch mint at Dahlonega commenced its operations in February and has received deposits of gold equal to the value of \$141,800. The amount of its coinage has been \$102,915, composed of 20,853 half eagles.

The coinage of half eagles continued from 1838 onward, joined by quarter eagles in 1839. Bearing out Farnum's concern, the regional production of bullion was much lower than anticipated.

Singleton expressed relief at the end of the first year of operations that the "Cherokee problem" had been solved. He somehow had the strange notion that Cherokees might raid the Mint to obtain gold. Major General Winfield Scott and his troops swept through the Cherokee Nation (including the Dahlonega region) in May and June 1838, and tragically and shamefully, not a single Native American remained in the district, except in prison.

Next month, I'll explore the events of 1839 and 1840. Not surprisingly, problems abounded. •

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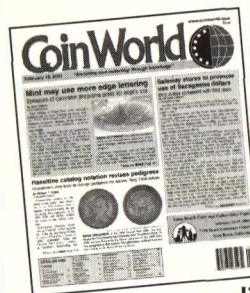
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McKinley Forever Linked to Pan-American Exposition

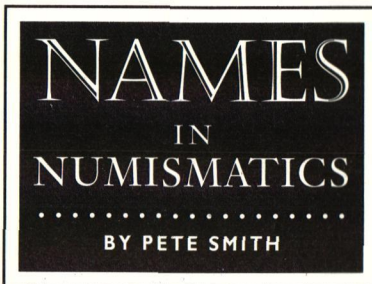
THIS MONTH MARKS the 100th anniversary of the assassination of President William McKinley (1843-1901). A number of numismatic collectibles relate to his untimely death at the Pan-American Exposition.

After practicing law in Canton, Ohio, McKinley was elected to Congress, where he served from 1876 to 1890. In 1878 he voted for the Bland-Allison Act, which resulted in the Morgan silver dollar. He was elected governor of Ohio in 1891. McKinley was an advocate of high tariffs, sound money and resumption of specie payments.

The last Civil War veteran to be elected president, McKinley defeated William Jennings Bryan in 1896. Bryan supported the "Free Silver" movement; McKinley advo-

cated the gold standard.

During McKinley's first term, the battleship *Maine* sank in Havana



harbor; and the Spanish-American War led to annexation of Guam, Puerto Rico and the Philippines. The United States became one of the last major nations to adopt the gold standard.

Times were good in 1900, and McKinley won re-election by the

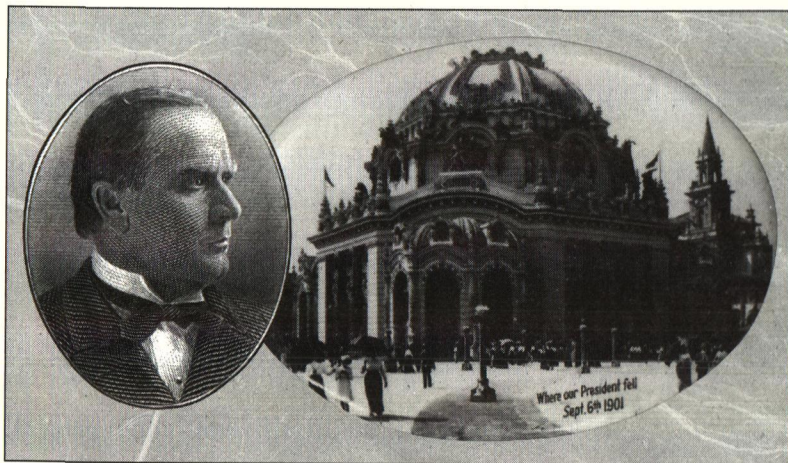
largest margin of popular votes to date. Souvenirs of his administration include campaign badges and ribbons; United States Assay Commission medals of 1898-1901; and various presidential medals, including one struck by the United States Mint (Mint Medal List #124).

The opening of the Pan-American Exposition, planned for 1899, was delayed until May 1, 1901, by the Spanish-American War. Intended to promote trade and social relations among North and South American states and nations, the fair is remembered for the history-making event that took place there.

The site of the Exposition, Buffalo, New York, was a progressive city, the eighth largest in the country. It claimed more miles of paved streets than any other American city, and was the first in the country to light its streets with electricity. The fair attracted 8 million visitors, among them a 17-member delegation from the American Numismatic Association convention in August.

Exposition souvenirs carry artistic renderings of a map of North and South America. Some medals and buttons represent the continents with stylized female figures. One souvenir button depicts both continents as a single female; her narrow waist represents Central America and her flowing skirt, South America. Other popular exposition souvenirs include pans representing the *Pan-American* theme; dustpans symbolizing industry; and images of a buffalo, denoting the host city.

President McKinley spoke at the



President William McKinley, portrayed in an American Bank Note Company engraving (left), was shot at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, New York, and died nine days later. This "souvenir" button shows the Exposition's Temple of Music, scene of the shooting.

Pan-American Exposition on September 5, 1901. The following day, he hosted a public reception in the Music Hall. Waiting among the visitors was Leon Czolgosz, his right hand wrapped in a handkerchief to conceal a revolver. Approaching McKinley as if to shake his hand, Czolgosz fired two shots—both of which struck the President.

Secret Service agents and Exposition security guards immediately pushed Czolgosz to the ground. The guards severely beat him, but also protected him from being killed on the spot by an outraged crowd.

Initial reports were optimistic for the President's recovery. Forwarding updates to an anxious public was a young telegraph operator, Thomas Lindsay Elder. (Elder later became a prominent coin dealer and promoted

his own political opinions on a series of medals.)

McKinley died of gangrene on September 14, 1901. Along the route of his funeral train, thousands of mourners placed coins on the tracks to retrieve later as souvenirs. Such items might be valuable today, but there is no way to prove that a particular coin was flattened by this specific train.

McKinley had declined an opportunity to appear on the 1900 Lafayette commemorative silver dollar, but he is pictured on a 1903 Louisiana Purchase Exposition commemorative gold dollar. He had signed the bill authorizing the Exposition, and after his assassination, his portrait was chosen for the obverse of one of the two \$1 coins.

A number of memorial medals

also link McKinley to the Exposition. One piece is the brass "President McKinley Assassination Dollar," which shows the President on the obverse and Temple of Music on the reverse. It is cataloged as #290 by Harold E. Hibler and Charles V. Kappen in their reference *So-Called Dollars*. Tokens related to the assassination were the subject of a 1903 article in *The Numismatist*.

The McKinley Memorial gold dollar was issued in 1916 and 1917 to raise funds for a memorial in Niles, Ohio, the city of his birth. Although the original proposal called for a silver dollar, Colonel Joseph Butler of the National McKinley Birthplace Memorial Association pointed out that gold would be a more appropriate metal, given the President's support of the gold standard. •

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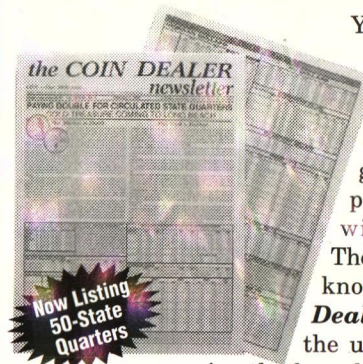
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Tokens in the Town of Eleanor

THE TINY TOWN of Eleanor is located in Putnam County, West Virginia, about 30 miles north of Charleston. Proclaimed "the cleanest little town in West Virginia" in 1975, it was founded in 1934 as one of many subsistence homesteads built during the the Roosevelt Administration.

The town was named for First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, who had taken an interest in the project and visited the site several times. One-hundred-fifty homes were built at an average cost of \$2,150 each, including the land. Constructed of cinder blocks, they ranged in size from three to five rooms. The lots were up to an acre in size and included barns, chicken coops, and gardens. Nearly all these structures still are inhabited.

Interestingly, tokens were issued in Eleanor by the Red House Association, Inc. Struck by the Osborne Register Company of Cincinnati, Ohio, they are listed in *Edkins Catalogue of United States Coal Company Store Scrip*. However, I wasn't convinced these tokens had anything to do with coal mining, primarily because the only company with a name that was anywhere close—the Red House Manufacturing Company—was a hosiery mill, which is listed in a 1941 business directory. I wasn't sure my hunch was correct, so I kept digging for information.

Recently, however, I was fortunate to contact one of the original residents of the town. Her letters, which I've combined and edited slightly, are fascinating. They provide unique insight into how tokens such as these were viewed by the people who actually used them:

I have lived in the town since 1935 when it was established. My family was one of the original "home-

EXONUMIA NOTEBOOK

BY DAVID E. SCHENKMAN

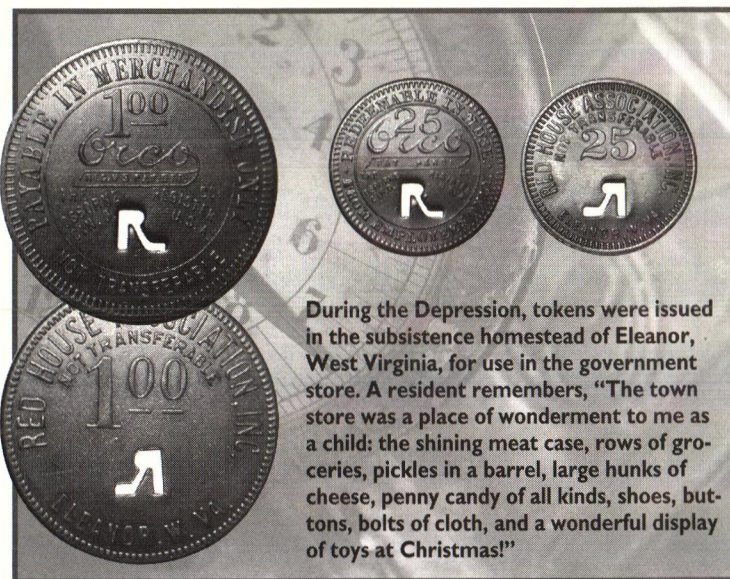
steads." Indeed, I know of the tokens that you speak of. In fact, they were referred to as "scrip," named perhaps for the mining scrip that was used in the coal-mining areas of West Virginia.

I know of only one person [who] perhaps owned a piece of the scrip, and she is no longer available to talk to. I do remember that it was *not* a popular thing with the people here because it was issued in lieu of

money for a pay period. If you needed money for groceries, utilities, etc., before a payday was due, you could go to the administration office, and they would issue you scrip and deduct it from your pay. Of course, this could only be used in the store or office, also owned by the government.

We had a grocery and an all-purpose store in town that was owned by the government, and there were two privately owned, small stores . . . that had been on the land when it was purchased in 1934 to build the town. Of course, [the government] wanted all monies to be spent and put back into the project and would [have liked] to slowly force the privately owned stores out of business.

The people believed they worked for the money and should receive money that could be used any place they wanted. This is why scrip was resented so much. I would say this is

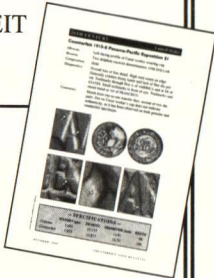


During the Depression, tokens were issued in the subsistence homestead of Eleanor, West Virginia, for use in the government store. A resident remembers, "The town store was a place of wonderment to me as a child; the shining meat case, rows of groceries, pickles in a barrel, large hunks of cheese, penny candy of all kinds, shoes, buttons, bolts of cloth, and a wonderful display of toys at Christmas!"

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the reason people tossed it away when it was no longer issued because it was a reminder of an unpleasant, resented way of life that was forced on them. The people here came from all walks of life, had seen better times, and were hard hit by the Depression. They [were a proud people with a] strong work ethic. Everyone had to work and was assigned a job according to training and/or education.

The tokens were issued by the Red House Association. (The Mill you mentioned was just a place where some employment was offered [as an alternative to working] for the government.)

The Red House Association was the government all the way. This town was one of three New Dealer towns built in West Virginia. . . . [F]amilies were selected to move here, build the homes, select one and move in. The Red House

Association was formed and the people were allowed to become members, so to speak, but all decisions were made and carried forth by the government. It was . . . one of those deals where you are made to feel important, even if you aren't. . . . [I]t was still the government that was calling all the shots.

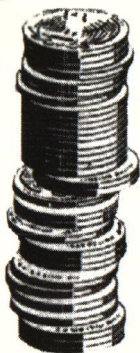
Today the tokens are scarce. Five denominations are known: 5, 10, 25 and 50 [cents] and [\$]1.00, "payable in merchandise only." All are brass, except for the 25, which is nickel alloy. They were struck using "stock" Osborne Register Company dies.

I welcome readers' comments and questions about tokens or medals. Write to me at P.O. Box 366, Bryantown, MD 20617. If a reply is desired, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. •

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A Close Shave for the Emperors of Rome

DURING HIS SOJOURN in the great Syrian metropolis of Antioch, from June A.D. 362 to March 363, Julian the Apostate, last emperor of the House of Constantine, wrote a satirical piece addressed to the citizenry entitled *Misopogon*, or "Beard-Hater." It seems the frivolous Antiochenes had delighted in ridiculing the austere philosopher-emperor who appeared to be almost a reincarnation of the Stoic Marcus Aurelius from two centuries before. But much had changed since the Age of the Antonines.

The Empire was now Christian, and few men had any zeal for the traditional teachings of the schools of philosophy and rhetoric. Fighting the tide of history, Julian was attempting to revive paganism, an endeavor that brought him nothing but derision from the people of Antioch, who delighted in composing satirical verses aimed at their ruler.

Some of this criticism was aimed at Julian's prominent beard, a highly unusual feature for emperors of this period and clearly symbolic of his beliefs—hence the title of his literary rebuttal. Julian perished fighting the Persians less than four months after leaving Antioch. His pagan revival died with him, though the memory of his bearded effigy lived on and remained symbolic of a belief in the principles of philosophy.

Roman portraiture had a long tradition of realism dating back to Republican times, when ancestral portrait busts were treated with great reverence in the homes of the aristocracy. In 44 B.C. dictator Julius Caesar became the first Roman to have his effigy displayed on the Re-

publican coinage during his lifetime. The revolutionary concept was eagerly adopted by his successors.

PRESENTS
FROM THE
PAST
.....
BY DAVID R. SEAR

The triumph of Octavian (Caesar's great-nephew and heir) over his rivals led to the overthrow of the republican form of government and the establishment of autocratic rule in Rome. Octavian, under his new name Augustus, became the first of a long line of emperors that would extend for 500 years in the West and three times as long in the East.

Roman society now had a model for fashions in hairstyles and apparel. When the emperor stopped shaving or the empress changed her coiffure, the new trend soon was copied by many of their subjects. This custom facilitates the closer dating of much anonymous portraiture in the Imperial period.

Changes in style seldom were based on a mere whim on the part of the autocrat or his wife. In Julio-Claudian and Flavian times (27 B.C. to A.D. 96), emperors almost invariably were shown clean-shaven. This fashion continued over the first two reigns of the "Adoptive" period—Nerva (96-98) and Trajan (98-117). This style had been set by the most influential man of the age, the Em-

pire's founder, Augustus, whose often-idealized portrait drew its inspiration from Greek prototypes and especially from images of the god Apollo, the emperor's guardian deity.

This style of portraiture came to an end with Hadrian (117-138). Although this remarkable emperor regarded himself as the "new Augustus," his real devotion was to Greek culture. It is scarcely surprising, then, that he adopted the Periclean style of closely cropped beard that appears on his coin portraits and statuary. Thereafter, for many generations, beards were the norm.

A new variation was introduced by Marcus Aurelius (161-180), who styled his much longer beard on that of the Stoic philosophers. A little later, the African emperor Septimius Severus (193-211) preferred his beard to be forked, doubtless an indication of his interest in the cult of the Graeco-Egyptian god Sarapis.

In the chaotic 3rd century, the preference for Imperial beards continued with few exceptions, other than youthful emperors such as Gor-



Not Actual Size

Depicted on a silver denarius, the beardless Augustus was inspired by images of the god Apollo.



Not Actual Size

Portrayed on a brass sestertius (left), Hadrian revived the Periclean-style, closely cropped beard. Marcus Aurelius is shown with the philosopher's beard on a gold aureus (right).

from that of his predecessors.

But the true architect of the late Roman state was Constantine I, "the Great" (307-337), who was responsible for the rejection of paganism and the adoption of Christianity as the Empire's official religion. Gone were the traditional pagan beards of Imperial portraiture. In their place came the clean-shaven images of Constantine I, his sons and other members of his dynasty.

The great exception was Julian II, son of a half-brother of Constantine and sole ruler of the Empire from 361 to 363. Perhaps reacting to the murder of his father in the dynastic intrigues following the death of Constantine in 337, Julian secretly espoused the cause of paganism. Drawn toward the principles of Stoicism, he became an admirer of Marcus Aure-

dian III (238-244). Many rulers of this brutal age had their origins in the Balkan provinces of Rome's troubled northern frontier. Their appearance on their coins gave the impression that they had more urgent matters to attend to than the finer points of

their personal appearance. Notable was Gallienus (253-268), whose portrait exhibited an almost Hadrianic refinement. Order was restored toward the end of the century by Diocletian (284-305), whose stubbly beard and general appearance differed little

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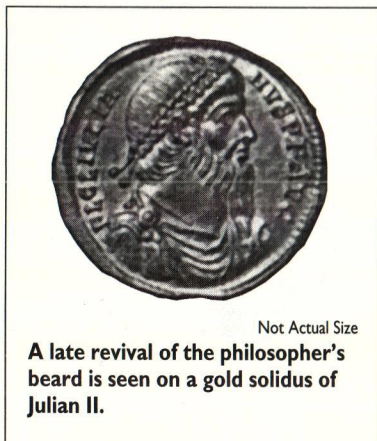
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lius, who had begun his rule exactly 200 years before. He even adopted the philosopher's beard—a prominent feature on coin portraits from the closing months of his reign and the primary object of ridicule by the Christian citizenry of Antioch.

Julian's pagan revival was short-lived and doomed to failure. Christianity was firmly entrenched, both in the government and among the general population. Paganism had been reduced to a fringe element of society, largely confined to free-thinking intellectuals. It is small wonder that the wearing of a beard now symbolized an adherence to the teachings of the old schools of philosophy and rhetoric. The bearded effigies of several "nonconformist" rulers appeared occasionally in the late 4th and even the 5th century—proof that a few



sparks of the pagan past still flickered.

When beards were revived as an element of Imperial Byzantine portraiture on the coinage of the early 7th century, their pagan significance was long forgotten. They became

purely symbolic of an emperor's degrees of advancement in seniority, from the clean-shaven appearance of a very junior ruler through the development of a beard to the full glory of an immensely long growth, complete with prominent mustache. This last style generally was reserved for patriarchal figures with sons who had been promoted to the rank of co-emperor.

It is doubtful that these highly stylized features bore any resemblance to the actual physical appearance of the individuals portrayed. Virtually all traces of the artistic verism of the ancient world had disappeared, not to be revived until the days of the Renaissance in 14th-century Europe.

Readers are invited to address questions and comments to David Sear at info@davidrsears.com. •

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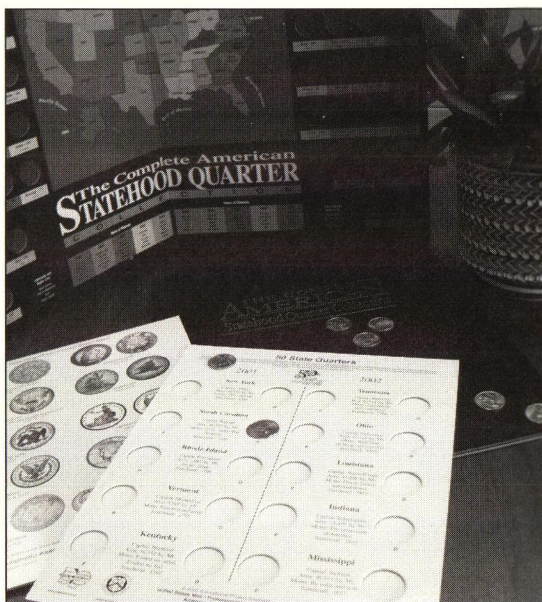
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Each board holds 20 quarters struck in 2001-2002 by the Denver and Philadelphia Mints. Historic quarter dollars and their predecessors are pictured on the back.

The new, full-color 50 State Maps measure 11" x 15" folded and hold one quarter for each state. Similar maps have sold through the ANA MoneyMarket for \$15.

The boards and the maps will be shipped with colorful flyers that feature a brief history of the quarter dollar coin, information about the ANA and a membership application. The boards and maps are **FREE** to ANA members and clubs. The ANA only asks that it be reimbursed for the shipping and handling costs and that the membership flyers are included when the boards and maps are distributed.

Going to School on the Internet

EDUCATION IS THE foundation upon which the American Numismatic Association is built. Overall, I think the ANA is doing an excellent job with the available facilities, equipment and manpower. However, to effectively carry out its educational mission, the ANA must plan for the future, and computers will be a key component.

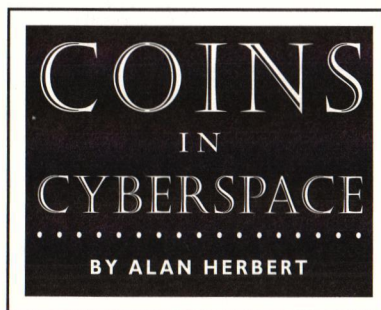
Did you know, for example, that more than 30 percent of the colleges and universities in the United States currently offer courses you can take at home via your computer? And that figure is expected to grow to nearly 90 percent in the next three years. (These statistics and others can be found in the August 2001 issue of *Computer Shopper* magazine.)

Right now, the ANA's Summer Seminar benefits only a small fraction of the membership. Think how many members and nonmembers we could reach through home computers! Would it be too much to dream that we could put our renowned seminar courses on the Internet? Or that you could participate at home and get college credit by doing so?

(Correspondence courses are nothing new. I was surprised to learn they have been around since 1840. When I was in high school, a long time ago, I learned to type using a correspondence course my mother had taken when she attended the University of Wisconsin.)

One educational institution, the University of Phoenix, has embraced this idea wholeheartedly. University of Phoenix Online (UPO), with a student body numbering 22,000, bills itself as "the nation's largest private accredited university." On-line since

1989, UPO has seen a 70-percent increase in the number of students for each of the last two years.



UPO charges a fee for its courses. It has to, because it supports a staff of 1,800 and limits class size to no more than 13 students. Some 46 credit hours are required for an MBA degree at an estimated cost of \$22,540. It sounds like a lot, but it's dirt cheap compared to the cost of attending a four-year college or university. (To learn more, visit online.phoenix.edu.)

However, not all colleges charge for on-line education. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (www.mit.edu), for example, puts some of its courses on-line at no cost.

Bits and Bites

◆ As long as we're dreaming, how about a computer-enhanced degree in numismatics? How many of you would like to earn such a degree, especially if you could do it from your home or office, with no room, board, travel expenses and other costs associated with attending school?

Perhaps one of the most unexpected benefits of at-home education via the Internet is that "wall-flower" students can learn—and

thrive—in a relaxed atmosphere.

If you'd like to learn more about "distance learning," here are some web sites to check out:

www.eduport.com—offers a multitude of links to other sites.

www.mindedge.com—a search engine that links you to schools offering on-line degrees.

distancelearn.about.com—features more listings than you can shake a stick at, plus someone available to answer questions.

www.collegelearning.com—one of the biggest sources of information on a wide variety of courses.

(And, if you want to help raise money to pay for the renovation of the ANA's super, world-class museum, you can earn a certificate in fund-raising by taking classes offered at fundwell.com.)

Oh, and don't take the first offer that comes along. Education is not without its scams, and on-line offers can be losers. Make absolutely certain that the school has the proper accreditation. Read the information on the site carefully. (One sign of a problem is misspellings and garbled English.) The bad boys will tout the low cost of a degree and even show a picture of the fancy diploma you will receive. "Diploma mills" are out there, so be careful.

Readers are invited to share their comments, questions and problems regarding computers and numismatics. Send them along to me at AnswerMan2@aol.com.





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SOMMER ISLANDS SHILLING THE FIRST AMERICAN COIN



(1615-1616) PCGS VF-25. Small Sail. Surfaces are finely granular, though all major features are clear. The coin is uniformly toned a rich reddish brown, with somewhat darker greenish brown shades evident within protected areas around the devices. Unlike most surviving Sommer Islands coinage, this thin, delicate copper planchet is almost perfectly round, showing a single tiny rim clip at 2 o'clock.

Four denominations were issued: shilling, sixpence, threepence and twopence. All bear similar designs, depicting a hog on the obverse, with a ship reverse motif. It is believed that the crude appearance of the coinage was intentional, to discourage their removal from the Islands and also to hold down costs, following British colonization of the Islands. Regardless, they proved unpopular and by the mid-1620's, seamen were carrying them to Virginia.

The Sommer Islands, now known as Bermuda, were discovered in 1503. In the decades following, they were the location of many shipwrecks, one of which carried a cargo of hogs bound for the West Indies. The animals swam ashore and thrived. When Admiral Sir George Sommer's galleon *Sea Adventurer* became separated from his fleet of nine during a hurricane in the Islands in July 1609, and sustained damage, the abundant food supply kept crew members well fed and healthy while repairs were made.

These coins were struck to commemorate that occasion. Many scholars view these historic numismatic artifacts as the First American Coin...\$19,950.

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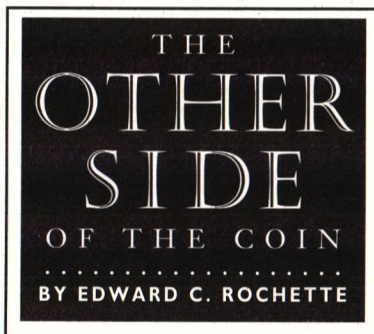
Noting the Feisty Citizenry of the Jasons

I ALWAYS HAVE been fond of the little fellows—perhaps because they remind me of an old friend who waddled about in a black suit and starched, white shirt. I am talking about penguins, of course.

I've found that these seemingly dignified, diminutive creatures, like their human counterparts, can harbor mean streaks. Get too close, and some will use their razor-sharp beaks to make your trousers look a lot like a hula skirt. They may be forgiven for their incivility, however, when one realizes their communities are endangered. I recently read an article in *The New York Times* (June 26, 2001) stating that penguins appear to be victims of global warming. The story brought to mind a long-forgotten tale of "penguin currency."

Almost 20 years ago, British forces clashed with Argentine invaders on the islands that make up the Falkland group in the South Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Argentina. As

they wrangled for control of the region, neither adversary set foot on any of the Jason Islands, situated in

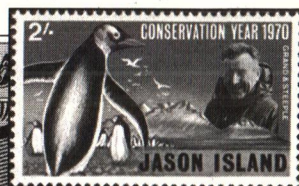
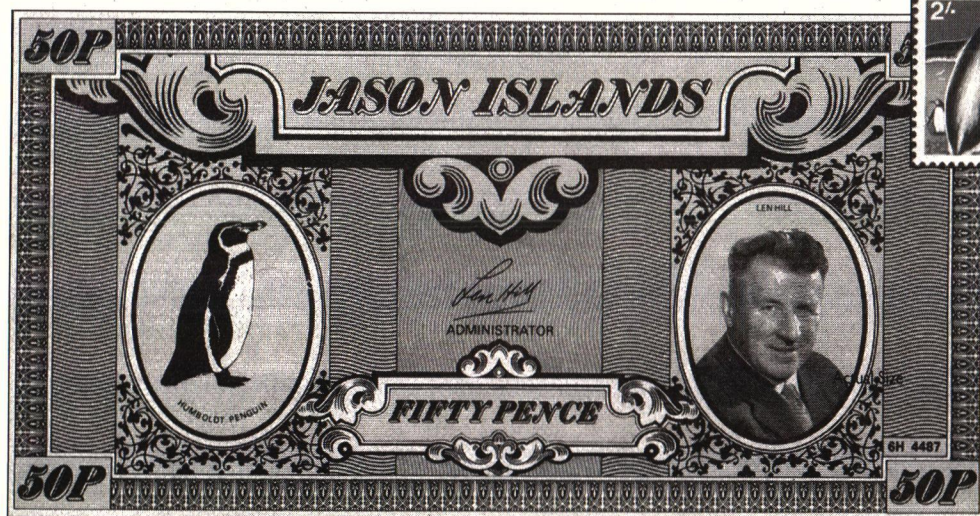


the northwest part of the Falkland Islands archipelago. Save for an occasional visit by a caretaker, the sole inhabitants have been penguins.

Had British or Argentine troops set foot on the Jason Islands to collect notes for making "short-snorters" (currency taped together end-to-end, from countries visited during times of war), they might have found

some unusual numismatic souvenirs. At that time, the Jason Islands had a color-denominated currency based on British money. The notes carried values of 50 pence, £1, £5, £10 and £20. The notes, as well as a commemorative postage stamp, featured illustrations of the local population—penguins.

Exchequer for this unique currency was the late Leonard Hill, who earned the sobriquet "Penguin Millionaire" for his efforts to care for the proud birds. Director of the Birdland Zoo Gardens in Gloucestershire, England, he also was a member of the Federation of Zoological Gardens of Great Britain and Ireland. In 1970 Hill purchased Grand and Steeple Islands in the Jason group with the express purpose of founding a bird sanctuary. To help underwrite the \$11,000 purchase price, as well as the maintenance of the island wildlife refuge, he issued "currency" and "postage."

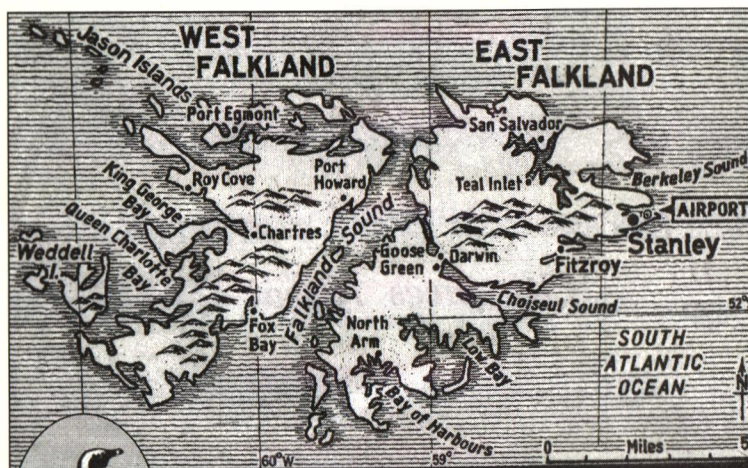


Not Actual Size
Englishman Leonard Hill, the "Penguin Millionaire," issued Jason Islands currency and postage to support his wildlife refuge. Pictured here are the front of a 50-pence note and a Conservation Year 1970 stamp.

Hill claimed his money to be legal tender . . . on the Jasons. Since the only inhabitants were penguins, the validity of his claim never was challenged. Each denomination was a different size and color, and featured a different type of penguin (Humboldt, Jackass, Rockhopper, Gentoo and King) on the front left. All notes carried a portrait of Hill on the front right.

For the World Conservation Year of 1970, Hill also issued a 2-shilling commemorative postage stamp. Penguins are not known to correspond by mail; thus, no canceled versions of the stamp are believed to exist.

Hill last visited the penguin citizenry of the Jason Islands shortly after the Falklands were free of Argentine invaders. Unfortunately, he died soon afterward. •



The Jason Islands, home to the only bird population with its own currency, are located on the northwest part of the Falkland Islands archipelago, off the Atlantic coast of Argentina.



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Collector, Dealer or Investor?

HAVE YOU EVER wondered whether one of your numismatic colleagues is a dedicated coin collector or, more likely, a dealer or investor? Perhaps you have asked that same question of yourself. In reality, a bit of all three aspects of the hobby motivate most of us in our thinking about coins.

This blending of collector, dealer and investor not only is normal and healthy, but also accurately defines today's collector. It is rare to find a collector who does not occasionally buy and sell a few coins; consciously or not, everyone hopes to make a profit when it comes time to liquidate all or part of a collection.

Most dealers began as collectors, and many of them remain so at heart. The one thing that differentiates them from other collectors is the amount of time and effort they devote to buying and selling. Serious investors usually are specialized collectors who have focused on astute purchases they think will prove to be profitable.

The lines of demarcation between collector, dealer and investor are so narrow, it is difficult to tell them apart. For that reason, the American Numismatic Association has only one category of membership. Everyone is given equal footing to enjoy and participate in the hobby in the way that best suits their tastes. The ANA is an association for the mutual benefit and pleasure of young and old, novice and expert.

Fifty years ago, those interested in coins were categorized broadly as amateurs and speculators. Dealers were regarded as true numismatists, usually with years of training in

every aspect of their specialty. Amateurs were not necessarily beginners; but they definitely were collectors



and non-professionals. Speculators were the investors of the day, but they realized that coins were not an investment. They simply were playing their hunches on what might become rare or valuable in time.

Although descriptions and some attitudes have changed over the years, the hobby has remained pretty much the same. Coin collecting still is a wonderful pastime.

File #691

It seems that coins in one form or another are being sold everywhere you look today. You can find them in stores, on TV and in your daily newspaper. The "Lincoln Penny Bracelet" recently offered in a shop-

per's magazine is an example of how far manufacturers are going to capitalize on the current coin craze.

In this ad, you are invited to buy a bracelet that is made of nine Lincoln cents that have been holed, then joined together by copper links. The advertisement says that the pride of America is seen in this bracelet made from genuine Lincoln pennies that have been aged a bit to bring out the fine detail of the president's portrait. Oddly, the advertiser did not try to convince anyone that this copper bracelet would cure arthritis.

If you spend \$22 for one of these items, you can be sure all the coins are real; a certificate of authenticity is included with your purchase. Although the price seems high, the advertiser says the bracelet is marked down from \$24.

File #692

A new promotion offers to give "free" coins to the American public. Like similar ads, this one is for 50 State quarters. It appeared in newspapers all over the country and had a limited ordering period. In this case, the price was quite reasonable. You had only to send in three, first-class postage stamps, and the promoters would send you an uncirculated Rhode Island quarter.

This promotion sounded dangerously like an offering from the United States Mint. It also said that the coin you will receive is packaged in an "official" display case. That, of course, is the tip-off that you will be prompted to buy the remaining coins required to fill this case at much higher prices. To show how valuable these coins may become,



Offers for 50 State quarters abound.

the ad quotes the market value for Delaware quarters as having increased by 340 percent, Pennsylvania by 415 percent and New Jersey by 290 percent.

File #693

Another new offering of 50 State quarters has a clever twist. It is a collection of the first 13 quarters (honoring the original 13 colonies), together with a Spanish-American piece-of-eight that the promoters say is "America's First Silver Dollar." The set comes in a plush case and appears to be quite attractive. It certainly is a historical, educational and interesting memento of the founding of our country.

The silver Spanish-American piece-of-eight was indeed used by our forefathers at the time these

States joined the Union, though it arguably was not America's first silver dollar. The 1794 coin pictured in the ad seems to be in Very Fine condition, although probably polished. The 50 State quarters are described as being in uncirculated condition and should be a set anyone would treasure. The price of \$119 is much higher than most coin dealers would charge. If you want something like this for yourself or a friend, try other sources first.

File #694

Readers have sent me copies of four more offerings of millions of dollars in funds that have been hidden in African countries just waiting for some honest American to retrieve it. The scenario always is very similar. Some slightly dishonest trustee has

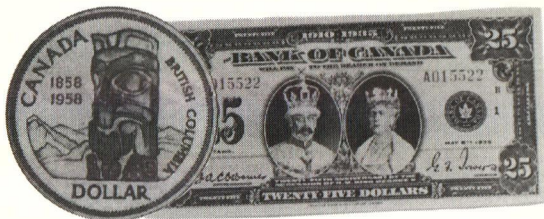
control of the funds that have been forgotten or stolen, and they have to be sent out of the country. Anyone who will accept them into their bank account will be given 20 percent or so for their help. The booty usually is around \$30 to \$60 million.

Only honest people have been selected to help get this money, of course, but to show their trustworthiness, they are expected to send a modest sum of money prior to the millions being transferred to America. Later, the official from Africa will fly here to split the loot with the lucky accomplice.

Anyone who falls for this old scam will get what he deserves. The marvel of it is that so many versions of this are going out via E-mail and no one has reported being taken in by it.

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Barber Quarters	2,000.00	3,500.00	19,000.00
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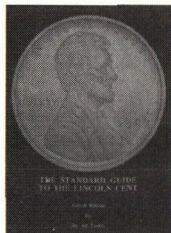
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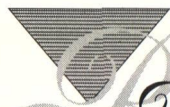
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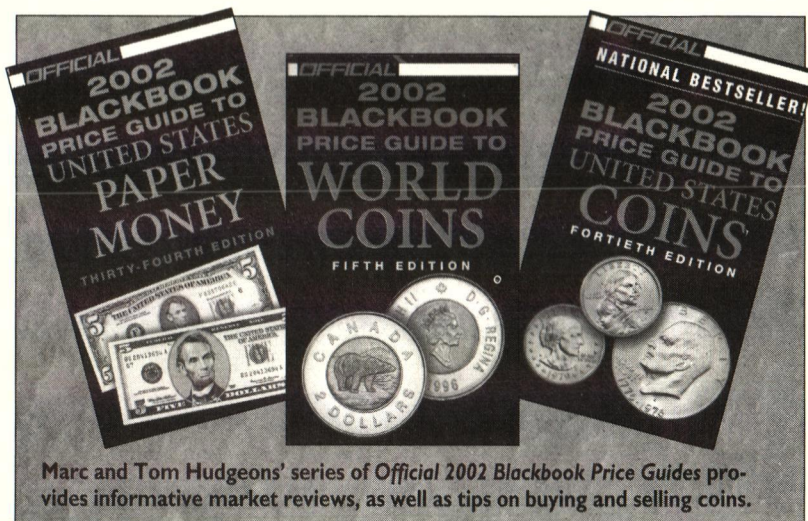
New Price Guide Editions Now Available

■ The Official 2002 Blackbook Price Guide to United States Coins (ANA Library Catalog No. GA50.D4 2002) by Marc and Tom Hudgeons has been completely revised for this 40th edition. With more than 16,500 price listings, as well as market reviews and expert tips on buying and selling coins, the handy guide can help collectors stay up-to-date with current trends. The 608-page, 4¹/₈ x 6⁷/₈-inch paperback, published by The Crown Publishing Group's House of Collectibles, is available in bookstores for \$6.99.

The 34th edition of **The Official 2002 Blackbook Price Guide to United States Paper Money** (ANA Library Catalog No. LLS20.K4 2002), another helpful book in the Hudgeons' four-volume series, covers every national note issued from the first in 1861 to the present, including National Bank and Federal Reserve notes. Also included are Confederate currency, error and "freak" notes, and tips on investing and caring for your collection. This 352-page, 4¹/₈ x 6⁷/₈-inch paperback retails for \$6.99.

The Official 2002 Blackbook Price Guide to World Coins (ANA Library Catalog No. CC20.H8 2002), now in its 5th edition, lists the current prices of more than 4,000 coins from 48 countries. The 592-page, 4¹/₈ x 6⁷/₈-inch paperback also provides information on buying and selling techniques, market trends and grading. It retails for \$7.99.

Association members also can purchase the "Blackbook" series



Marc and Tom Hudgeons' series of Official 2002 Blackbook Price Guides provides informative market reviews, as well as tips on buying and selling coins.

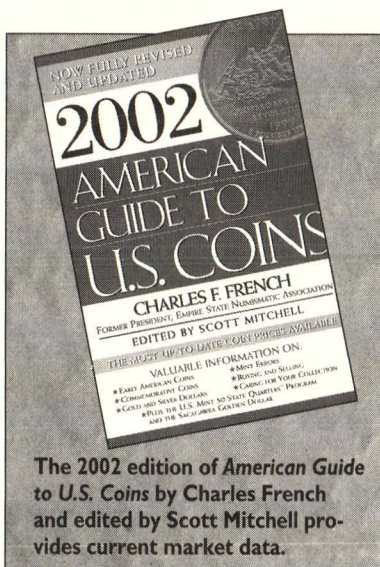
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reference covers the entire range of 20th-century United States coinage, providing some interesting insights into early American pieces, pirate and Revolutionary money, gold coins and Hard Times tokens, as well as Civil War, Mormon, commemorative and proof issues.

This year's edition features valuable new sections on authenticating and valuing coins; using coin-grading services; coin cleaning and storage; techniques for selling a collection; auction-house operations; and listings of on-line and bibliographic sources. The book also features details on the United States Mint's two latest initiatives: the 50 State Quarters™ Program and the Sacagawea dollar, along with illustrations, estimated prices and practical tips.

With more than 300 new photographs and up-to-date price data, this 237-page, 5¹/₂ x 8¹/₂-inch, soft-cover handbook provides valuable information for the novice and experienced collector alike. The guide is available for \$8.99 from Fireside Books. For further details, visit the publisher's web site at www.simonsays.com.



The 2002 edition of *American Guide to U.S. Coins* by Charles French and edited by Scott Mitchell provides current market data.

Children's Counting Books

continued from page 1012

Children's Book Publishers

ONE OF THE most successful publishers of early English money-counting books was John Harris of London. Before embarking on his own business, Harris had managed the publishing operations of Elizabeth Newbery, the last direct successor of John Newbery's enterprise. While Harris' money-counting books are quite similar in format and design to those by other publishers of the period (such as D. Carvalho, W. Belch and T. Goode), Harris' books usually are infinitely more attractive. "[E]very one of the little books bearing [Harris'] imprint equals anything that can be produced by all the refinements of modern colour processes. Crisp engravings . . . and later the newly discovered lithographs with their delicate bloom were all used, both plain and coloured, to brighten and beautify every sort of book," notes James.

Because Harris and other early publishers of children's books often produced both plain and colored copies of the same book, modern-day collectors of these tomes need to exercise caution when contemplating a purchase. "Plain copies are not uncommon," Darton warns. "And nothing is easier than for an unscrupulous person to turn an honest old black and white into a coloured specimen, by applying watercolour with an almost dry brush."

Harris and his colleagues were active in the quarter century (roughly 1805 to 1830) that many historians of children's literature consider to be the *haute époque* of children's illustrated books. While some may disagree with this assessment—after all,

the impact of Kate Greenaway, Howard Pyle, N.C. Wyeth and others would not be felt for several decades—anyone who has ever had the good fortune to personally examine a publication by Harris or his contemporaries must certainly agree that each work possesses an engaging individuality rarely seen later.

This is entirely understandable, for many variables impacted the printing and coloring of these endearing little books. The paper stock, its dampness at the time of printing, wear on the plate, amount of pressure, and so on—all contributed to making each one of these counting-text publications unique.

The imprint of the renowned "J. Harris" changed to that of "J. Harris and Son" in 1819. In May or June 1824, the elder Harris retired, and his son continued the business until Grant and Griffith absorbed the firm in 1843. The senior Harris died three years later.

Yet, in a sense, John Harris lives on, as do his fellow publishers. They live on in the many works that have been written about their pioneering efforts in children's literature. They live on in money-counting books, which continue to be published to this very day. And they live on, especially, in those few and fragile, surviving, money-counting books that they themselves produced once upon a time, a long time ago . . .

Acknowledgments

THE AUTHOR WOULD like to thank the staff of Indiana University's Lilly Library, especially Curator of Books Joel Silver, for numerous courtesies extended. •

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L.D. Mitchell is an antiquarian bookseller specializing in works about pre-20th-century California. In addition to numismatic literature, he collects private press books and books dealing with the book arts. He is a fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society and a former governor of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society.

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Membership News



Renovated Museum and Library Previewed

On July 14, hobbyists and community leaders attended a preview of the ANA's renovated Money Museum and Library in Colorado Springs, Colorado, which included the opening of the Harry W. Bass Jr. Collection exhibit. At a ceremony held in the sculpture garden of the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, adjacent to ANA headquarters, ANA President H. Robert Campbell said that with the remodeling, "the ANA truly is prepared for the millennium and the ANA's second century." United States Mint Director Jay W.



ANA President H. Robert Campbell (left) and ANA Executive Director Edward C. Rochette unveil a plaque marking the 2001 renovation of the Association's headquarters.



A brass band (top) helped make the preview of the remodeled ANA Museum and Library a lively event. Wielding the scissors at the ribbon-cutting ceremony were Doris Bass and H. Robert Campbell, flanked by United States Mint Director Jay Johnson and Colorado Springs City Council member Sallie Clark.

Johnson, who spoke at the ceremony attended by more than 200 people, called the event the "World Series" and the "Super Bowl" of the numismatic world.

The ANA began the renovation project last December, more than doubling the size of the Library and replacing the former museum galleries with open exhibit areas on two floors. New, custom-designed, movable display cases allow for greater flexibility and facilitate changing exhibits. The renovation of the first

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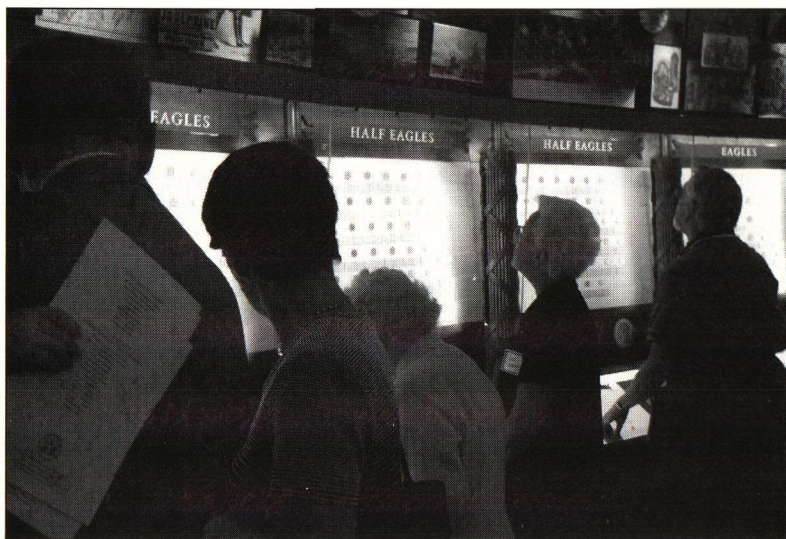
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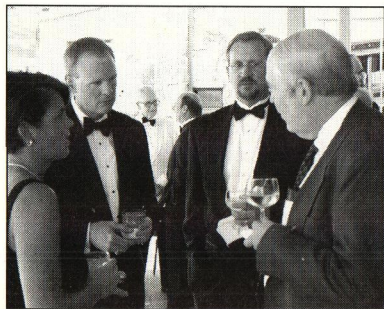


Visitors were riveted by the presentation of the Harry W. Bass Jr. Collection (left), while a young guest was intrigued by a beaver in a display of tokens and trade silver in the ANA's exhibit "Proud Spirits: American Indians, Bison and Numismatics."

floor of the museum is nearly complete and features an expansive exhibit entitled "Proud Spirits: American Indians, Bison and Numismatics," inspired by the ever-popular Indian Head (Buffalo) nickel. The pairing of coins, tokens, medals and paper money with colorful, historic



Edmund Deane of the Harry W. Bass Jr. Foundation and his wife, Ann.



During the "Celebration of Stars" reception and dinner, Q. David Bowers (right) chats with Harry W. Bass Jr.'s stepsons Michael Calhoun (left, with friend Renee Burns) and David Calhoun.



John Lopez (left), special assistant to the Federal Reserve System board of governors, and his wife, Diana, with Dennis Yockey of Grant Thornton L.L.P. and his wife, Peggy.

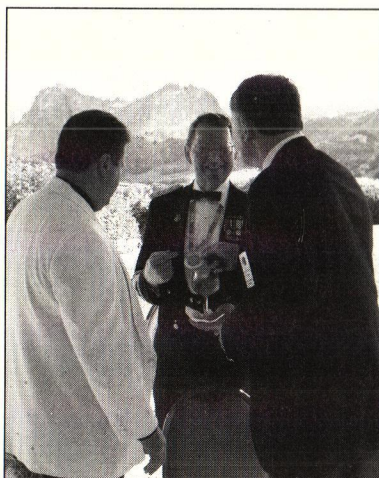


Benefactor John Nebel and ANA Information Technology Director Susie Nulty.

artifacts and narrative brings the study of numismatics to life.

The centerpiece of the revamped museum, however, is the state-of-the-art, \$20 million display of United States gold coins, patterns and paper money assembled by the late Harry W. Bass Jr. His widow,

Membership News



Framed by the beautiful Garden of the Gods, ANA President H. Robert Campbell (left) and Vice President John Wilson (right) visit with fellow renovation-fund patron Joseph Boling.

Doris, who was on hand for the opening celebration, said that as much as her late husband enjoyed researching, studying and discovering the thousands of pieces that made up his collection, "he was even more enthusiastic about the idea of sharing what he found with others."

Other speakers included Colorado Springs City Council member Sallie Clark, who noted the importance of the ANA's presence in the city; David Turner, director of the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center; and Q. David Bowers, an ANA past president and friend of the Harry W. Bass Jr. Foundation, which funded the Bass exhibit.

A "Taste of the West" reception followed the ribbon-cutting. The outdoor buffet featured buffalo burgers, bratwurst and kabobs graciously donated by the National Bison Association. A dinner was held that evening at the Garden of the Gods Club to recognize the major

donors thus far in the ANA's \$3 million building renovation fund drive. Mint Director Johnson served as master of ceremonies at the "Celebration of Stars," which was attended by ANA benefactors and staff, and members of the Bass Foundation.

Campbell noted that even though much of the construction work is completed, "the hardest part still lies ahead of us." He thanked all contributors for their generosity, and asked those in attendance to "go home and tell others what you saw and experienced today. I encourage you to express the importance of what is being done at their ANA."

Wilson and Lewis to Lead New ANA Board

A new president and vice president, and four new and three incumbent governors have been elected to the ANA's nine-member Board of Governors, with 8,220 ballots cast in the biennial election. The officers were installed at the ANA's 110th Anniversary Convention banquet, August 11, in Atlanta, Georgia.

ANA Vice President John Wilson of Ocala, Florida, was elected president, defeating Past Governor Will Rossman of Estes Park, Colorado. Wilson received 4,841 votes to Rossman's 3,225 in the first contested race for the ANA presidency since

1975. In the contested election for the vice presidency, Governor Gary E. Lewis of Cape Coral, Florida, defeated Governor Alan Herbert of Belle Fourche, South Dakota, by a

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Wilson



Lewis

Membership News

vote of 4,343 to 3,582.

New Board members are M. Remy Bourne, Arthur M. Fitts III, William H. Horton Jr. and Jerry Lebo. Re-elected incumbents are Patricia A. Finner, Kay Edgerton Lenker and Barry S. Stuppler.

President H. Robert Campbell and Governor Thomas Hallenbeck, who both served two terms, did not seek re-election. Governor and Past President Anthony Swiatek was prohibited from seeking another term, having served the limit of 10 years (five terms) on the Board.

Wilson, a 23-year life member of the ANA, is a collector, exhibitor, exhibit judge, author, speaker and researcher. A member of the Board of Governors since 1995, he also has

served as president of the Central States Numismatic Society and governor of the Society of Paper Money Collectors. He is a recipient of the ANA's Medal of Merit, Glenn Smedley Memorial Award and Presidential Award.

Lewis, a 41-year life member of the ANA, was first elected to the Board of Governors in 1995, and has served on the ANA's Audit, Finance, Exhibit, Resolutions, Mediation, Commemorative Quarter and Young Numismatists Committees. He also has worked as an ANA regional, district and club representative, and is a 1979 recipient of the ANA's Outstanding Adult Advisor Award.

Votes garnered by the winning candidates, as tabulated by the inde-

pendent accounting firm of Grant Thornton L.L.P. (in descending order of votes received) were:

- 5,377 for Patricia Finner of Iola, Wisconsin
- 4,875 for Kay Edgerton Lenker of San Diego, California
- 4,628 for Barry S. Stuppler of Woodland Hills, California
- 4,566 for Arthur M. Fitts III of Framingham, Massachusetts
- 4,507 for M. Remy Bourne of Minneapolis, Minnesota
- 4,321 for Jerry Lebo of Logansport, Indiana
- 4,263 for William H. Horton Jr. of Keyport, New Jersey

Votes received by the four unsuccessful candidates, in descending order, were:

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- 4,030 for Walter A. Ostromecki Jr. of Panorama City, California
- 4,026 for Steven K. Ellsworth of Clifton, Virginia
- 3,979 for Karen Jach of Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- 3,958 for Gar Travis of Wilmington, North Carolina

Nearly 28 percent of the ANA membership eligible to vote cast ballots in this election; more than 30 percent voted in the election two years ago.

Silliman Leaves Authentication Bureau

In July Brian Silliman announced his intention to resign as chief authenticator for the ANA Authentication

Bureau. Employed by the ANA since 1998, he left the staff at the end of August to seek other opportunities in the field.

"Brian is and has been a great asset to the ANA," says Executive Director Edward C. Rochette. "He knows his subject and has been a force behind our successful Summer Seminar classes on counterfeit detection and our traveling coin-grading seminars." He also is a major contributor to *Counterfeit Coin Bulletin*, a joint publication of the ANA and International Association of Professional Numismatists.

Silliman says, "I am very fortunate to have had this great opportunity to work at the ANA. I hope others coming up in numismatics will have

the same chance I had to learn and advance in this field."

Silliman, 32, joined the ANA staff after an eight-week museum internship. A graduate of Occidental College in Los Angeles, California, with a degree in history, he was a coin dealer before joining the ANA staff. As time allows, he hopes to serve as a contributing editor/writer for ANA publications.

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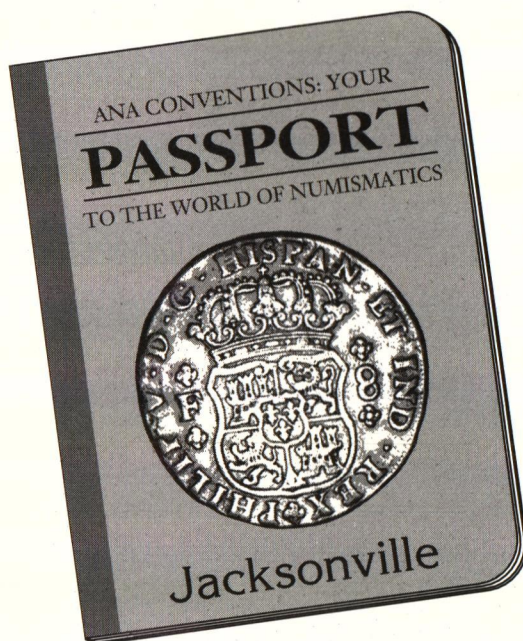
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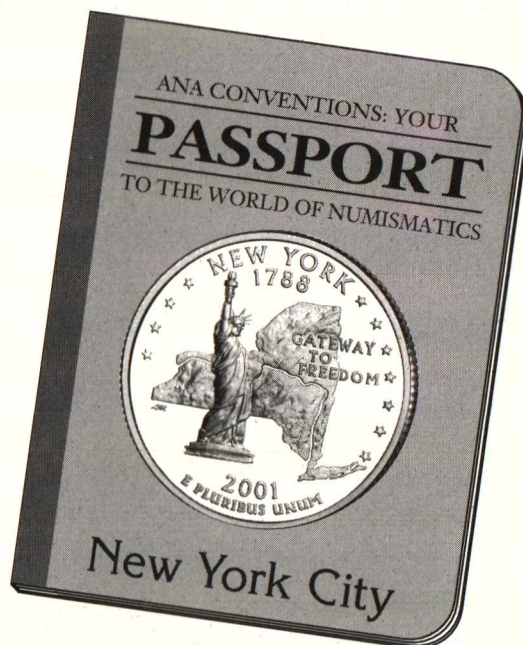
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Membership News

Hobbyists Converge on Colorado Springs for 33rd Annual Seminar

The American Numismatic Association's 33rd Annual Summer Seminar attracted approximately 350 students and instructors to ANA headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colorado, June 30 through July 13. Featuring two, week-long sessions, the seminar offered 25 courses in a wide variety of numismatic fields, from coin grading and counterfeit detection to intaglio engraving and early British coinage.

ANA Education Director Gail Baker planned a slate of programs and optional activities for students, including an exclusive tour of the



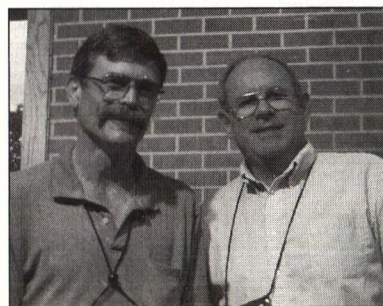
Historic Cutler Hall is a landmark on the Colorado College campus, where most Seminar classes are held.

DENIS DeBAN

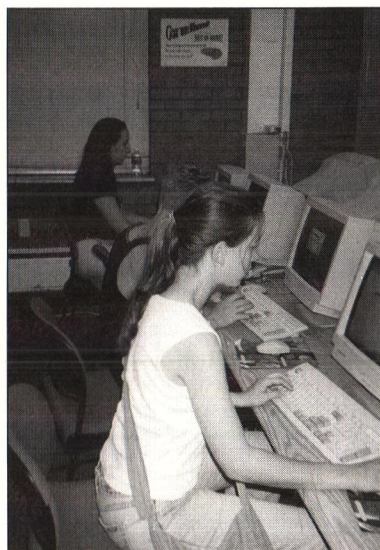


Students anxiously anticipate the annual ANA book sale, where they can buy numismatic references and auction catalogs at bargain prices.

DENIS DeBAN

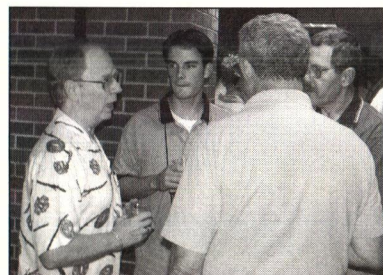


Steve Carr (left) and Doug Bird taught "Early American Copper Coinage."



Colorado College offered a computer lab, which Seminar students could use to surf the Internet and check their E-mail.

WILLIAM YANCHICK



ANA past president and editor of the popular "Red Book" Ken Bressett (left) chats with students.

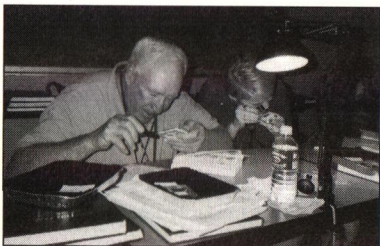
United States Mint in Denver; an overnight trip to Taos, New Mexico; excursions to local Colorado attractions; and a selection of "mini-seminars." Students had to contend with a headquarters in upheaval. Currently undergoing a \$3 million renovation, the ANA building was buzzing with construction activity. Although the new, improved Library was operational, the Money Museum was inaccessible as staff busily prepared for an official preview on July 14.

Says Baker, "I always look forward

Membership News

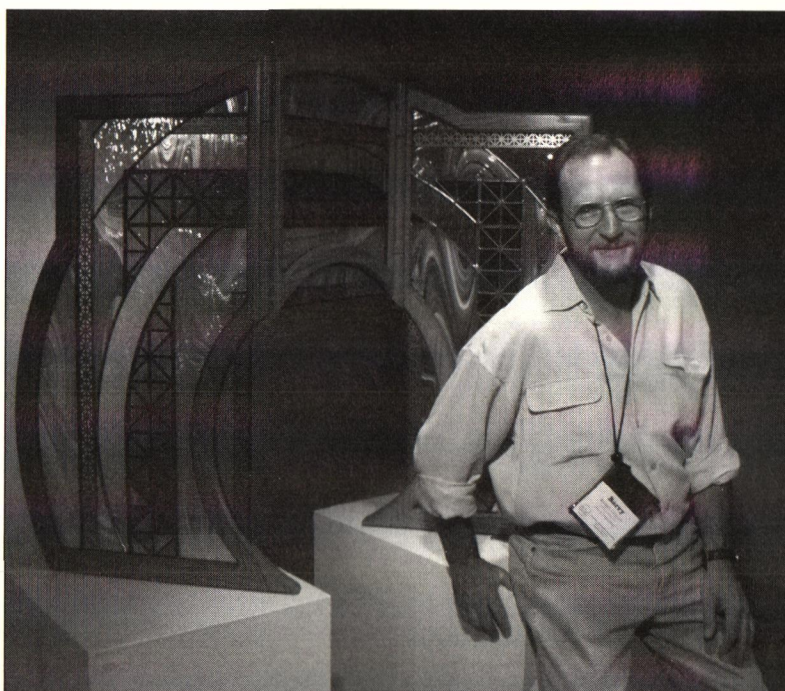


Nathan Austin (left) clowns around with ANA Education Director Gail Baker and her son, John Kraljevich.

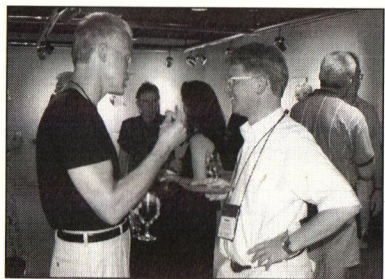


James Harding (left) and Debbie Williams, students enrolled in the "Early American Copper Coinage" class, examine specimens.

TOM HYLAND



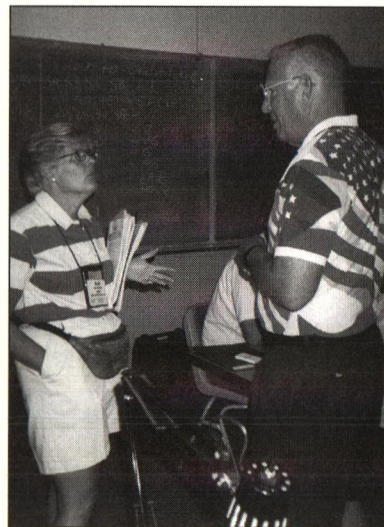
Enrolled in the "Art of Engraving" class, Barry Dolan displayed some of his other works in a special exhibit mounted by class participants.



Chris Madden (left), who instructed the "Intaglio Engraving" class, visits with Dr. Peter Jones, a Connecticut collector enrolled in "Detection of Counterfeit and Altered World Coins."



During the graduation banquet at the end of Session II, Prue Fitts (left) received the Numismatic Ambassador award from *Numismatic News* Editor Dave Harper.



Suitably attired for classes held on the morning of July 4th, Carl Schwenker III talks with ANA Education Director Gail Baker.

CAROL HARMES

to seeing returning students and welcoming new ones. Many have attended three or more seminars. For a lot of them, it's like coming home to family and friends."

To receive information about next year's Summer Seminar, contact the ANA Education Department, telephone 800/367-9723, or E-mail Gail Baker at education@money.org.

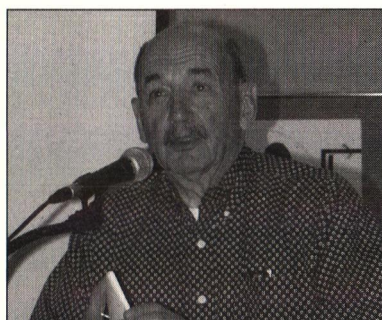
Membership News



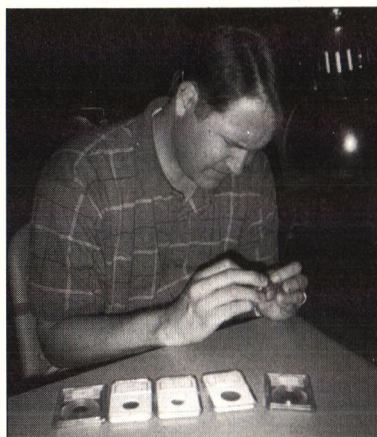
One of the optional tours available to students was a scenic trip to the top of Pikes Peak via the cog railway. DENIS DeBAN



Rebecca Harrison (left) and Jane Roberts man the presses in the "Intaglio Engraving" class. LARRY SEKULICH



ANA Executive Director Ed Rochette.



Phil Hildenbrand, one of six instructors for "Advanced U.S. Coin Grading."

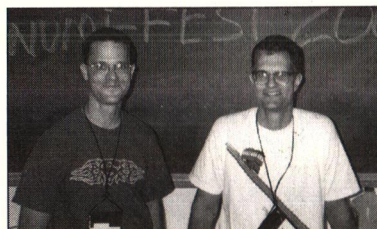
KATHARINE BIERCE



ANA President H. Robert Campbell presents a certificate of appreciation to ANA Summer Intern Randy'L Teton, the model for the Sacagawea dollar.



Nathan Austin (left), Jariel Bortnick (seated) and Ben Keele work together to create the catalog for the Young Numismatist (YN) Auction. Proceeds from the popular, annual event benefit the ANA's YN Summer Seminar scholarship program. EVAN PERRAULT



Keeping it in the family: brothers Brad and Blaine Shiff of Pittsburgh both enrolled in "Detection of Counterfeit and Altered Coins."



Steve Ballard (right) of Appleton, Wisconsin, entertains fellow seminar students by sketching caricatures during the graduation reception at the end of Session I.

Membership News

Campbell Confers Three Presidential Awards

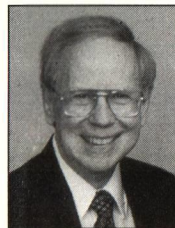
On July 5, 2001, at the 33rd Annual ANA Summer Seminar banquet (Session I), President H. Robert Campbell presented Bert Bressett of Colorado Springs, Colorado, with a Presidential Award. Bressett, an ANA national volunteer, earned the ANA Medal of Merit in 1993, followed by the Farran Zerbe Memorial Award, which she and her husband, Ken, received in 1998. At the July 12 banquet following Session II of the Summer Seminar, Campbell recognized instructor J.P. Martin and his wife, Lisa, for their support and promotion of the hobby.

On July 10, during the monthly

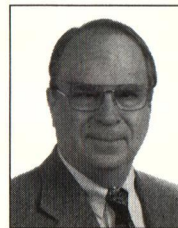
meeting of the Utah Numismatic Society, Ralph Muller presented a Presidential Award on Campbell's behalf to Chris Larsen of Sandy, Utah. Larsen was honored for his service on the local committee for the ANA's National Money Show™ held in Salt Lake City last March.

Bressett and Fitts Receive Lifetime Achievement Awards

The American Numismatic Association confers its Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of outstanding contributions to organized numismatics. First presented in 1992, the award is given to individuals, families, firms or judicial entities



Bressett



Fitts

for service to the hobby. The 2001 recipients are Kenneth E. Bressett and Arthur M. Fitts III.

Kenneth E. Bressett of Colorado Springs, Colorado, is deserving of this honor for his many thoughtful and worthwhile contributions to the hobby. This energetic man is not only a lifelong collector, but also an author, exhibitor, researcher, editor,



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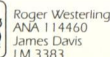
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Membership News

mentor and past ANA president. He works diligently to both advance and broaden the hobby. *Numismatic News* named Bressett a Numismatic Ambassador in 1978.

Bressett is the editor of one of the hobby's most popular references, *A Guide Book of United States Coins* (commonly known as the "Red Book"). He also has written many numismatic books, including *Basics of Coin Grading for U.S. Coins* and *Collectible American Coins*.

Over the years, Bressett has received many acknowledgments of his outstanding efforts, including the ANA's Farran Zerbe Memorial Award, Medal of Merit and Glenn Smedley Memorial Award. In 1998 he was inducted into the Associa-

tion's Numismatic Hall of Fame.

Arthur M. Fitts III of Framingham, Massachusetts, has been an ANA member for 46 years. He has worked at ANA headquarters in several capacities, including assistant to the executive director, convention coordinator, museum curator, and ANA Certification Service consultant. Currently, Fitts serves as ANA historian, Mediation Committee member, and contributing editor and columnist for *The Numismatist*.

Fitts has been a correspondence course and Numismatic Diploma Program mentor; *Money Talks* script writer; regular ANA Numismatic Theatre presenter; and 18-year instructor at ANA Summer Seminars. He has served on the ANA Resolu-

tions, Museum, Awards, Convention, Dealer Relations and Professional Search Committees.

An exhibit judge and award-winning exhibitor, Fitts has participated in 40 ANA conventions, including once as a bourse chairman and once as general chairman. Over the years, the ANA has honored Fitts with the Medal of Merit, Glenn Smedley Memorial Award and two Presidential Awards. He was recognized by *Numismatic News* in 2000 with the Numismatic Ambassador award.

Mercanti Honored for Medallic Sculpture

The American Numismatic Association has conferred its 2001 Numis-

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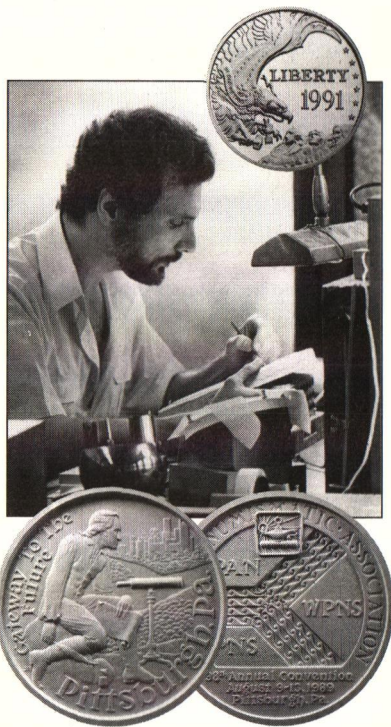
Volumes 2 through 5 are due out shortly.

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John Mercanti is this year's recipient of the ANA's Numismatic Art Award for Excellence in Medallistic Sculpture. Among his works are the obverse of the 1991 Mount Rushmore gold \$5 commemorative coin (top) and the official medal for the ANA's convention in Pittsburgh in 1989.

matic Art Award for Excellence in Medallistic Sculpture on John M. Mercanti of Deptford, New Jersey. A former sculptor/engraver for the United States Mint, he has contributed much to coinage art over the last 27 years.

After attending the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, the Philadelphia College of Art and Fleisher Art Memorial School, Mercanti was hired by the Mint in 1974. Among his many works are the 1989 Congress Bicentennial gold \$5 coin; 1986 Statue of Liberty silver dollar; the reverse of the 1983 Olympic silver dol-

lar; and the obverses of the 1990 Eisenhower Centennial dollar, 1991 Mount Rushmore gold \$5 coin and 1991 Korean War Memorial dollar.

Mercanti also has designed nearly 30 medals issued by the Mint, including President George Bush's inaugural medal in 1989; the reverse of the Persian Gulf War medal in 1991; and the obverse of the Bicentennial of the White House medal in 1992. In addition, he created the obverse and reverse designs for the medal struck for the ANA's 98th Anniversary Convention in Pittsburgh in 1989.

Personally, Mercanti always has demonstrated a kind and generous spirit. Professionally, his many medals reflect a master artist's skill. In appreciation of his commitment, the ANA presented him with a 14kt-gold medal, produced and graciously donated by The Franklin Mint.

Awards for Top Club Publications Presented

Winners of the ANA's Outstanding Club Publications Awards for 2001, honoring the top newsletters and journals published in 2000 and submitted in the annual competition, were announced at the 110th Anniversary Convention in Atlanta. First-, second- and third-place awards were presented in each of three categories (local, regional and specialty) to the following publications:

Local Clubs

- 1st place: "Metropolitan Coin Club of Atlanta Newsletter," Metropolitan Coin Club of Atlanta (Georgia), Editor David Crenshaw
2nd place: "ACCent," Anchorage Coin Club (Alaska), Chief Editor Larry Nakata

- 3rd place: "Calgary Numismatic Society Newsletter," Calgary Numismatic Society (Canada), Editor Neil Probert

Regional Clubs

- 1st place: *GNA Journal*, Georgia Numismatic Association, Editor David Crenshaw
2nd place: *The Centinel*, Central States Numismatic Society, Editors Jim and Karen Jach
3rd place: *NOW News*, Numismatists of Wisconsin, Editors Ron and Phyllis Calkins

Specialty Clubs

- 1st place: *Paper Money*, Society of Paper Money Collectors, Editor Fred Reed
2nd place: *John Reich Journal*, John Reich Collector Society, Editor Bradley S. Karoleff
3rd place: *Errorscope*, CONECA, Editors Deborah Wiles and Michael L. Ellis

Three Recognized with Medal of Merit

Each year, the American Numismatic Association awards its Medal of Merit in recognition of numerous years of dedicated, outstanding service to the Association. At the ANA's 110th Anniversary Convention Awards Ceremony on August 11 in Atlanta, Georgia, the prestigious award—including a certificate and an engraved, silver medal—was bestowed on three long-time supporters: John R. Eshbach of Lancaster, Pennsylvania; Robert H. Lloyd of Payson, Arizona; and Louis C. Villalpando of Biloxi, Mississippi.

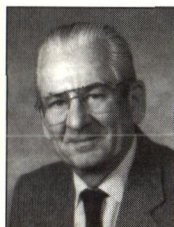
John R. Eshbach joined the ANA in 1962 and became involved with

Membership News

the Red Rose Coin Club of Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Within three years, he served the organization as president and was instrumental in forming the Central Pennsylvania Numismatic Association. He joined the ANA Representative Program in 1968, later serving as a district delegate and then regional coordinator for Region 14.

Eshbach has volunteered as an exhibit judge at every ANA anniversary convention since 1970 and has himself won many exhibit awards. With friend and fellow Pennsylvania collector Gerald Kochel, he conducted a class on exhibiting at the 1999 and 2000 ANA Summer Seminars in Colorado Springs.

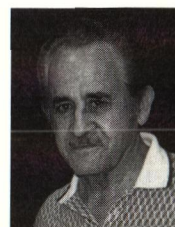
Robert H. Lloyd became an



Eshbach



Lloyd



Villalpando

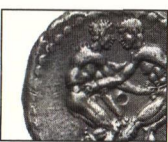
ANA member in 1926 when he was only 20 years old and is the first person to achieve 75 continuous years of membership. He was elected to the ANA Board of Governors in 1930 at the age of 24. At the same time, Lloyd held the position of secretary of the Buffalo Numismatic Association and served as chairman of the 1930 Committee on Conven-

tion Papers. While on the ANA Board of Governors, Lloyd served on the ANA's Finance and Audit, Banquet and Program Committees. He was a member of the Convention Advisory Board, Program, Registration and Trips Committees for the ANA's 1947 convention, and has been a member of the ANA Numismatic Hall of Fame Advisory Board



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THE NUMISMATIST • SEPTEMBER 2001

Membership News

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Calendar listings are published as a service to member clubs of the American Numismatic Association. Entries must be received at least eight weeks prior to the cover date of the magazine and preferably as much as four months in advance so announcements can appear in several consecutive issues. Type or print information and send to Calendar of Events, 818 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279; fax 719/634-4085; E-mail anaedi@money.org. Receipt of show notices is acknowledged by mail; if you do not receive confirmation of your listing, contact the Publications Department.

EAST

SEPTEMBER

1-2 HAGERSTOWN, MD. Venice Inn Ballroom, Dual Hwy. E. on U.S. Rt. 40. Interstate Coin Club Coin Show. Chairman Robert K. Brechbiel, P.O. Box 1901, Hagerstown, MD 21742; telephone 301/739-5414.

8 BRICK, NJ. Laurelton Fire House, Rte. 88 W. (1 block from Laurelton intersection). Ocean County Coin Club Jersey Shore Coin Show. Chairman Dennis Berube, 325 Madison Ct., Brick, NJ 08724; telephone 732/785-0449 (evening).

8 LYNCHBURG, VA. Scarlett's Galleries, 1026 Main St. Lynchburg Coin Club 4th Annual Coin Show. Thomas Wood, 1026 Main St., Lynchburg, VA 24505; telephone 804/528-0488.

9 ALBANY, NY. Polish Community Center, Washington Ave. Extension. Capital District Coin Dealers Association Coin Show. Chairman J.F. Marcelli, 28 Locust Ave., Troy, NY 12180; telephone 518/274-4216.

ANA EVENTS

March 7-9, 2002 JACKSONVILLE, FL. Prime Osborn Convention Center, 1000 Water St. ANA National Money Show™. Contact Convention Department.

April 21-27, 2002 79th Annual National Coin Week. Contact Education Department.

June 29-July 5 and July 6-12, 2002 COLORADO SPRINGS, CO. Colorado College. 34th Annual ANA Summer Seminar (two, week-long sessions). Contact Education Department.

July 31-August 4, 2002 NEW YORK, NY. New York Marriott Marquis Hotel, 1535 Broadway. ANA 111th Anniversary Convention. Contact Convention Department.

NATIONAL/REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS & EVENTS

September 1-2 OMAHA, NE. Holiday Inn Convention Center, I-80 & 72nd St. Annual National Token Collectors Association Token & Medal Show hosted by the Omaha Coin Club. Chuck Berger, c/o OCC, P.O. Box 1003, Omaha, NE 68101-1003; telephone 402/571-5758; E-mail cberger199@uswest.net.

September 7-9 COUNTRYSIDE, IL. Park Place of Countryside Banquet Hall, 6200 Joliet Rd. (I-55, Exit 279N, go 1.2 mi. on LaGrange Rd., then left on Joliet Rd. for about 2 blocks). Illinois Numismatic Association Fall Coin Show & Convention. Kermit Wasmer, 325 Coney Ave., Watseka, IL 60970; telephone 815/432-4636.

September 21-23 ANNANDALE, VA. Northern Virginia Community College. 43rd Annual Virginia Numismatic Association Coin Show. Paul Singleton, c/o VNA, 712 Westover Rd., Richmond, VA 23220-6327; telephone 703/932-9568.

October 4-7 LONG BEACH, CA. Long Beach Convention Center, 100 S. Pine Ave. Long Beach Coin & Collectible Expo. General Chairman Ronald J. Gillio, 1103 State St., Santa Barbara, CA 93101; telephone 805/962-9939; fax 805/963-0827; E-mail lbexpo@gte.net.

October 5-7 HICKORY, NC. Hickory Metro Convention Center. North Carolina Numismatic Association Coin Show & Convention. Bourse Chairman Halbert Carmichael, P.O. Box 5625, Raleigh, NC 27650; telephone 919/832-4128; E-mail anncarmichael@mindspring.com.

October 5-7 JEFFERSONVILLE, IN. Ramada Inn-Riverside, 700 W. Riverside Dr. (Exit 0, I-65). Kentucky State Numismatic Association 41st Annual Coin Show hosted by the Louisville Coin Club. Bourse Chairman Jim Miller, 2004 Culbertson Ave., New Albany, IN 47150; telephone 812/944-8248.

October 12-14 BROOKLYN CENTER, MN. Earle Brown Heritage Center, 6155 Earle Brown Dr. Minnesota Organization of Numismatists Coin Show. Bourse Chairman Jay Darby, 3628 6th St. N.W., Rochester, MN 55901; telephone 507/289-5280.

October 13-14 CEDAR RAPIDS, IA. Four Points Sheraton Hotel, 525 33rd Ave. S.W. Iowa Numismatic Association 63rd Annual Convention & Coin Show hosted by the Cedar Rapids Coin Club. CRCC, P.O. Box 2277, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406; telephone Nevin Roberts, 319/377-6974.

continued on next page

Membership News

15-16 INDIANA, PA. Best Western University Inn, 1545 Wayne Ave. (Rt. 119). Indiana Coin Club 43rd Annual Fall Coin Show. John F. Busovicki, 510 Walcott St., Clymer, PA 15728-1427; telephone 724/254-2471.

15-16 LANCASTER, PA. Lancaster Farm & Home Center, Arcadia Rd. (off Rt. 72, Manheim Pike). 43rd Annual Fall Coin Show held by the Red Rose Coin Club. Bourse Chairman Kerry Wetterstrom, P.O. Box 621, Lancaster, PA 17608; telephone 717/291-9870.

16 CHEEKTOWAGA, NY. F.J. Donovan Post, 3210 Genesee St. Erie County Coin & Stamp Club Coin & Stamp Bourse & Coin Auction. Rolf Hjalmarson, c/o Lazer Tree Grafics, 6589 Main St., Williamsville, NY 14221; telephone 716/633-4104 or 716/634-0668 (evening/weekend); E-mail jalmar@buffnet.net.

16 WEST HAVEN, CT. Elks Lodge, 265 Main St. Liberty Coin Club 3rd Sunday Coin Show. Chairmen Joseph Marino, 179 Park St., West Haven, CT 06516; telephone 203/934-3503; or Dennis Horrocks, 64 Pearl St., New Haven, CT 06511; telephone 203/562-4956.

22 HARRISBURG, PA. Community Life Team (formerly River Rescue), 1119 S. Cameron St. Harrisburg Coin Club Coin Show. Bourse Chairman David L. Rittner, 240 Walnut St., Highspire, PA 17034; telephone 717/939-8287.

30 HACKETTSTOWN, NJ. American Legion Hall, Willow Grove St. Coin Show conducted by the Hackettstown Coin Club. Show Chairman, c/o Steve Middleton, P.O. Box 83, Boonton, NJ 07005; telephone 973/627-0705; E-mail Smiddletoya@aol.com.

OCTOBER

6-7 BUFFALO (DEPEW), NY. Fraternal Order of Eagles, 4569 Broadway.

NATIONAL/REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS & EVENTS

continued from previous page

October 26-28 GREENVILLE, SC. Palmetto Expo Center, Hwy. 291 (Pleasantburg Dr.). South Carolina Numismatic Association Annual Convention. Sam Norris, 108 N. First St., Easley, SC 29640; telephone 864/855-2150; Internet www.scna.org.

October 26-28 MONROEVILLE, PA. Pittsburgh ExpoMart, Bus. Rt. 22 (Exit 6, Pa. Tpk.). Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists (PAN) 23rd Annual Convention. John Paul Sarosi, 106 Market St., Johnstown, PA 15901; telephone 814/535-5766; fax 814/535-2978; E-mail www.money.org/club-pan.html.

October 26-28 SANDY, UT. Larry H. Miller Conference Center, 9750 S. 300 W. 38th Annual Numismatic Society Coin & Collectible Show. Bob Campbell, 1123 E. 21st S., Salt Lake City, UT 84106; telephone 801/467-8636 (Tues.-Sat.).

November 2-3 INDIANAPOLIS, IN. Indianapolis Marriott Hotel, 7202 E. 21st St. Indiana State Numismatic Association 43rd Annual Coin Show. Joyce Fischer, P.O. Box 2624, Anderson, IN 46018-2624; telephone 765/649-0253; fax 765/643-0179; E-mail acsbags@iquest.net.

November 9-11 CHATTANOOGA, TN. Camp Jordan Arena, I-75, Exit 1. Tennessee State Numismatic Society Convention. Bourse Chairman Gayle Pike, c/o TSNS, P.O. Box 11705, Memphis, TN 38111; telephone 901/327-1703 or 901/210-7669; E-mail pikgk@aol.com.

November 15-18 ST. LOUIS, MO. St. Louis Airport Hilton Hotel, 10330 Natural Bridge Rd. National & World Paper Money Convention sponsored by the Professional Currency Dealers Association. Bourse Chairman Kevin Foley, P.O. Box 573, Milwaukee, WI 53201; telephone 414/421-3484; fax 414/423-0343.

Expo 2001 Coin, Stamp & Currency Show sponsored by the Erie County Coin & Stamp Club. Rolf Hjalmarson, c/o Lazer Tree Grafics, 6589 Main St., Williamsville, NY 14221; telephone 716/633-4104 or 716/634-0668 (evening/weekend); fax 716/633-4104; E-mail jalmar@buffnet.net.

7 ALBANY, NY. Polish Community Center, Washington Ave. Extension. Capital District Coin Dealers Association Coin Show. Chairman J.F. Marcelli, 28 Locust Ave., Troy, NY 12180; telephone 518/274-4216.

20-21 CHARLESTON, WV. Charleston Civic Center, 200 Civic Center Dr. Charleston Coin Club Coin Show. Bourse Chairman Don Clifford, P.O. Box 65, St. Albans, WV 25177; telephone 304/727-4062 (after 7 p.m.).

21 CHEEKTOWAGA, NY. F.J. Donovan Post, 3210 Genesee St. Erie County Coin & Stamp Club Coin & Stamp Bourse & Coin Auction. Rolf Hjalmarson, c/o Lazer Tree Grafics, 6589 Main St., Williamsville, NY 14221; telephone 716/633-4104 or 716/634-0668 (evening/weekend); E-mail jalmar@buffnet.net.

21 WEST HAVEN, CT. Elks Lodge, 265 Main St. Liberty Coin Club 3rd Sunday Coin Show. Chairmen Joseph Marino, 179 Park St., West Haven, CT 06516; telephone 203/934-3503; or Dennis Horrocks, 64 Pearl St., New Haven, CT 06511; telephone 203/562-4956.

28 QUEENSBURY, NY. VFW Post 6196, Luzerne Rd. & Richardson St. Coopers Cave Coin Club 24th Fall Coin & Stamp Show. Fred Meinrenken, 2262 Call St., Lake Luzerne, NY 12846; telephone 518/654-9585.

Membership News

28 SPARTA, NJ. Elks Lodge, Lake Mohawk Boardwalk. Sussex County Coin Club Coin Show. SCCC, c/o Tom Stepsanski, Dart Stamp & Coin Shop, 130 Dolson Ave., Middletown, NY 10940; telephone 914/343-2716.

NOVEMBER

3 HANOVER, PA. Parkville Fire Hall, 955 Baltimore St. (PA Rte. 94). Hanover Numismatic Society Annual Coin Show. Clyde Mitchell, 236 Jasmine Dr., Hanover, PA 17331; telephone 717/630-2958.

4 ALBANY, NY. Polish Community Center, Washington Ave. Extension. Capital District Coin Dealers Association Coin Show. Chairman J.F. Marcelli, 28 Locust Ave., Troy, NY 12180; telephone 518/274-4216.

10-11 LAVALE, MD. LaVale Fire Hall #1, 421 National Hwy. Western Maryland Coin Club Show. Becky Weir, 1313 National Hwy., Suite 6, LaVale, MD 21502; telephone 301/729-6424.

18 CHEEKTOWAGA, NY. F.J. Donovan Post, 3210 Genesee St. Erie County Coin & Stamp Club Coin & Stamp Bourse & Coin Auction. Rolf Hjalmarson, c/o Lazer Tree Grafics, 6589 Main St., Williamsville, NY 14221; telephone 716/633-4104 or 716/634-0668 (evening/weekend); E-mail jalmar@buffnet.net.

18 WEST HAVEN, CT. Elks Lodge, 265 Main St. Liberty Coin Club 3rd Sunday Coin Show. Chairmen Joseph Marino, 179 Park St., West Haven, CT 06516; telephone 203/934-3503; or Dennis Horrocks, 64 Pearl St., New Haven, CT 06511; telephone 203/562-4956.

SOUTH

SEPTEMBER

2 HOLLYWOOD, FL. David Park Center, 108 N. 33rd Ct. (I-95 to Hollywood Blvd., W. to Park Rd.—next to firehouse). Hollywood Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Show conducted by the Gold Coast Coin Club. GCCC, P.O. Box 910, Hollywood, FL 33022.

16 FT. LAUDERDALE, FL. Coral Ridge Mall, 3200 N. Federal Hwy. Fort Lauderdale Coin Club Coin Show. Harvey Bastacky, P.O. Box 550532, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33355; telephone 954/424-8776; E-mail harveyph@prodigy.net.

21-22 SAN ANGELO, TX. All American Chevrolet, 203 N. Bryant Blvd. San Angelo Coin Club 2nd Annual Coin

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Membership News

Show. SACC, P.O. Box 2521, San Angelo, TX 76902; telephone Harry R. Littleton, 915/235-2330, or Tom Gonzales, 915/465-4615.

22-23 ABILENE, TX. Garden Club, 300 Westwood Dr. Annual Wildcat Coin Show sponsored by the Key City Coin Club. Bourse Chairman Bob Kirkley, 2625 S. 21st St., Abilene, TX 79605; telephone 915/695-0436.

22-23 BEAUMONT, TX. Beaumont Civic Center, Main & Forsythe (I-10, Downtown Exit). Southeast Texas Coin & Collectibles Show co-sponsored by the Beaumont & Silsbee Coin Clubs. Bourse Chairman, P.O. Box 1324, Orange, TX 77631-1324; telephone 409/883-6388.

30 WEST PALM BEACH, FL. Knights of Columbus Hall, 1155 S. Congress Ave. Palm Beach Coin Club Coin Show. Chairman Tony Swicer, P.O. Box 5823, Lake Worth, FL 33466; telephone 561/964-8180 (9-5, weekdays).

OCTOBER

6 MCKINNEY, TX. Holiday Inn, 1300 N. Central Exp. (Hwy. 75 N., Exit 40B). Semi-Annual Coin Show held by the Collin County Coin Club. Gary Rollins, P.O. Box 744, McKinney, TX 75070-0744; telephone 972/727-1566.

7 HOLLYWOOD, FL. David Park Center, 108 N. 33rd Ct. (I-95 to Hollywood Blvd., W. to Park Rd.—next to firehouse). Hollywood Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Show conducted by the Gold Coast Coin Club. GCCC, P.O. Box 910, Hollywood, FL 33022.

13 HOUMA, LA. Ramada Inn, 1400 W. Tunnel Blvd. First Annual Coin Show sponsored by the Bayou Country Coin Club. Chairman Bernie Lafaso, P.O. Box 1065, Gray, LA 70359; telephone 985/637-5774; E-mail thewhips@internet8.net.

20-21 WILMINGTON, NC. American Legion, 701 Pine Grove Dr. (off Oleander Dr.). Fall Coin Show held by the Lower Cape Fear Coin Club. LCFCC, P.O. Box 4232, Wilmington, NC 28406; E-mail lcoins@aol.com.

21 FT. LAUDERDALE, FL. Coral Ridge Mall, 3200 N. Federal Hwy. Fort Lauderdale Coin Club Coin Show. Harvey Bastacky, P.O. Box 550532, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33355; telephone 954/424-8776; E-mail harveyfb@prodigy.net.

28 WEST PALM BEACH, FL. Knights of Columbus Hall, 1155 S. Congress Ave. Palm Beach Coin Club Coin Show. Chairman Tony Swicer, P.O. Box 5823, Lake Worth, FL 33466; telephone 561/964-8180 (9-5, weekdays).

NOVEMBER

3 COLUMBIA, SC. American Legion Hall, 200 Pickens St. (@ Whaley). Coin Show sponsored by the Midlands Coin Club. Bourse Chairman Michael Teague, P.O. Box 8212, Columbia, SC 29202; telephone 803/732-1988 (evenings & weekends); E-mail skycoin1@aol.com.

4 HOLLYWOOD, FL. David Park Center, 108 N. 33rd Ct. (I-95 to Hollywood Blvd., W. to Park Rd.—next to firehouse). Hollywood Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Show conducted by the Gold Coast Coin Club. GCCC, P.O. Box 910, Hollywood, FL 33022.

10-11 FT. WORTH, TX. Amon G. Carter Jr. Exhibition Center, 3401 W. Lancaster Ave. Fort Worth Coin Club 40th Annual Coin Show. Gary Andrews, 2901 Flat Rock Rd., Azle, TX 76020-1837; telephone 817/444-5500; fax 817/444-5077; E-mail aircom@aol.com; or Bill Yates; telephone 817/236-1945; E-mail wyates9399@aol.com.

17-18 FOLEY, AL. Foley High School Library (behind Wal-Mart on Rt.

59 S.). Gold Coast Coin & Currency Show held by the South Baldwin Numismatic Society. Bourse Chairman Afton Anderson, c/o SBNS, P.O. Box 1836, Foley, AL 36536; telephone 850/456-6469; E-mail flafton@hotmail.com.

18 FT. LAUDERDALE, FL. Coral Ridge Mall, 3200 N. Federal Hwy. Fort Lauderdale Coin Club Coin Show. Harvey Bastacky, P.O. Box 550532, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33355; telephone 954/424-8776; E-mail harveyfb@prodigy.net.

25 WEST PALM BEACH, FL. Knights of Columbus Hall, 1155 S. Congress Ave. Palm Beach Coin Club Coin Show. Chairman Tony Swicer, P.O. Box 5823, Lake Worth, FL 33466; telephone 561/964-8180 (9-5, weekdays).

CENTRAL

SEPTEMBER

8-9 SIOUX FALLS, SD. Sioux Falls Fairgrounds Armory, 4000 W. 12th St. Great Plains Coin Club 37th Annual Coin & Stamp Show. Bourse Chairman Larry Muehl, P.O. Box 1091, Sioux Falls, SD 57108; telephone 605/335-1910.

9 MOUNT VERNON, OH. Dan Emmett Conference Center, 150 Howard St. Mount Vernon Numismatic Society Coin Show. Jack Lahr, P.O. Box 811, Mount Vernon, OH 43050; telephone 740/397-7934; Internet www.money.org/clubs/mvns-coinshow.htm.

13-15 MILWAUKEE, WI. Four Points Sheraton Hotel, 4747 S. Howell Ave. Milwaukee Numismatic Society 67th Annual Coin & Collectible Show. Bourse Chairman Dave Hunsicker, 248 S. 7th Ave., West Bend, WI 53095; telephone 262/338-6064.

23 ROCKFORD, IL. Holiday Inn—Hoffman House, 7550 E. State St. (Bus.

Membership News

Rt. 20). 90th Semi-Annual Coin Show held by the Rockford Area Coin Club. Larry Kasberger, 2419 Circle Dr., Belvidere, IL 61008; telephone 815/547-6382.

28-30 STRONGSVILLE, OH. Holiday Inn-Select, 15471 Royalton Rd. Northeast Ohio Coin Club 41st Annual Coin Show. Bill Krizsan, c/o NOCC, P.O. Box 14579, Cleveland, OH 44114.

29 PEKIN, IL. Miller Senior Center, 551 S. 14th St. (1/2 block N. of Pekin Hospital). 41st Annual Coin Show held by the Tazewell Numismatic Society. Dale O. Freidinger, c/o TNS, P.O. Box 696, Pekin, IL 61554; telephone 309/353-6178 or Mike Gallion 309/535-2114.

29-30 BELLEVILLE, IL. Belle-Claire Fairgrounds, Rts. 159 & 13. Fall Coin Show conducted by the St. Clair Numis-

matic Society. Johnny Kicklighter, 1121 E. Main St., Belleville, IL 62220; telephone 618/277-4493; E-mail kicklighter.johnny@mcleodusa.net.

OCTOBER

5-6 SALINA, KS. VFW, 1108 W. Crawford. Salina Coin & Stamp Show sponsored by the Salina Coin Club. Bourse Chairman Joe Ayotte, P.O. Box 1111, Salina, KS 67402; telephone 785/825-0706.

7 ROYAL OAK, MI. Senior Community Center, 3500 Marais Ave. (N. of 13 Mile Rd., 2 blocks E. of Crooks Rd.). Fall Coin Show sponsored by the Royal Oak Coin Club. ROCC, P.O. Box 445, Royal Oak, MI 48068; telephone Andrew Parks, 248/435-2321, or Jean

Scheibner, 248/542-2316.

13-14 NEW PHILADELPHIA, OH. Holiday Inn, 131 Bluebell Dr. S.W. (I-77, Exit 81). Tuscarawas County Coin Club 42nd Annual Coin Show. TCCC, Box 83, New Philadelphia, OH 44683.

14 ORLAND PARK, IL. Orland Park Civic Center, 14750 S. Ravinia Ave. (1 block W. of U.S. Rt. 45, LaGrange Rd.). Oak Forest Numismatic Society 21st Annual Coin & Collectibles Show. Bourse Chairman Michael Doran, P.O. Box 150 Bradley, IL 60915-0150; telephone 815/937-4409 or 815/953-4410.

20 SHEBOYGAN, WI. Armory, 516 Broughton Dr. Coin & Stamp Show hosted by the Sheboygan Coin Club. Ed Rautmann, 1652 Riverdale Ave., Sheboygan, WI 53081; telephone 920/452-0054.



2001 Events
October 4-7

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September 26-29

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Membership News

20-21 LENEXA, KS. Lenexa Community Center, Pflumm Rd. @ Santa Fe Trail Dr. (I-35 to 95th St., W. 2 blocks to Pflumm, then N. 2 blocks). 33rd Annual Johnson County Numismatic Society Coin, Stamp & Card Show. Mark McWherter, 1107 E. Northview St., Olathe, KS 66061; telephone 913/649-7070 (daytime) or 913/764-0386 (evening); E-mail imcinc@unicom.net.

21 LAFAYETTE, IN. Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds, 1401 Teal Rd. Coin Show sponsored by the Lafayette Numismatic Society. Mark France, P.O. Box 851, Lafayette, IN 47902.

21 ROCHESTER, MN. Radisson Plaza Hotel, 150 S. Broadway St. Annual Fall Southern Minnesota Coin & Stamp Show hosted by the Rochester Area Coin Club. Bourse Chairman Jerry Swanson,

P.O. Box 565, Rochester, MN 55903; telephone 507/289-5099.

28 GREEN BAY, WI. Comfort Suites-Rock Garden, 1951 Bond St. Nicolet Coin Club Fall Coin & Stamp Show. Roger A. Bohn, 1345 Ponderosa Ave., Green Bay, WI 54313; telephone 920/499-7035.

28 OWATONNA, MN. Ramada Inn, 1212 N. I-35. Owatonna Coin & Stamp Club Fall Coin Show. Mark Rasmussen, 556 McIndoe St. E., Owatonna, MN 55060; telephone 507/451-7538.

NOVEMBER

11 EVANSVILLE, IN. C.K. Newsome Community Center, 100 E. Walnut St. Coin Show held by the Evansville Coin Club. Bourse Chairman Dennis Longest,

c/o ECC, P.O. Box 6659, Evansville, IN 47719; telephone 812/464-1386.

17 PEKIN, IL. Miller Senior Center, 551 S. 14th St. (1/2 block N. of Pekin Hospital). 8th Holiday Coin Show held by the Tazewell Numismatic Society. Dale O. Freidinger, c/o TNS, P.O. Box 696, Pekin, IL 61554; telephone 309/353-6178 or Mike Gallion 309/535-2114.

WEST

SEPTEMBER

9 SCOTTSDALE, AZ. Elks Lodge, 6398 E. Oak St. Coin, Stamp, Post Card, Sports Card & Collectible Show held by the Camelback Collectibles Club. Bob Phelan, P.O. Box 15005, Phoenix, AZ 85060; telephone 480/990-1007.

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Membership News

15 OCEANSIDE, CA. Elks Lodge, 444 Country Club Ln. (off Mission & Barnes). Oceanside-Carlsbad Coin Club San Diego North County Coin & Collectible Show. OCCC, 800 Oro Avo Dr., Vista, CA 92084; telephone Frank Trutta, 760/743-8682, or Doug Hasselo, 760/729-2855.

16 HILO, HI. Nani Mau Gardens, 421 Makalika St. Coin Show sponsored by the Big Island Coin Club. Derrick Ah Sing, P.O. Box 971, Hilo, HI 96721; or telephone Rick Howsley, 808/981-0668.

23 FAIRFIELD, CA. Fairfield Community Center, 1000 Kentucky St. (off Pennsylvania). Fairfield Coin Club 12th Annual Coin & Collectibles Show. FCC, P.O. Box 944, Fairfield, CA 94533-0094; telephone 707/435-8751; E-mail stanyrbk@vusd.solanocoe.K12.ca.us.

OCTOBER

14 SCOTTSDALE, AZ. Elks Lodge, 6398 E. Oak St. Coin, Stamp, Post Card, Sports Card & Collectible Show held by the Camelback Collectibles Club. Bob Phelan, P.O. Box 15005, Phoenix, AZ 85060; telephone 480/990-1007.

20-21 STOCKTON, CA. Eagle's Hall, 1492 Bourbon St. 37th Annual Coin Show sponsored by the Delta Coin Club of Stockton. Publicity coordinators Isolee Smith, E-mail ismith@valleyip.net; and Bill Horning, P.O. Box 7604, Stockton, CA 95267-0604; telephone 209/477-0404; E-mail whorning@inreach.com.

NOVEMBER

3-4 TACOMA, WA. LaQuinta Inn, I-5

& Portland Ave. Semi-Annual Coin Show sponsored by the Tacoma-Lakewood Coin Club. Loren Lawrence, P.O. Box 11192, Tacoma, WA 98411; telephone 253/582-1762.

11 SCOTTSDALE, AZ. Elks Lodge, 6398 E. Oak St. Coin, Stamp, Post Card, Sports Card & Collectible Show held by the Camelback Collectibles Club. Bob Phelan, P.O. Box 15005, Phoenix, AZ 85060; telephone 480/990-1007.

25 CONCORD, CA. Concord Veterans Memorial Bldg., 2290 Willow Pass Rd. @ Colfax. Fifth Annual Contra Costa Coin Show sponsored by the Diablo Numismatic Society. Mike Stanley, c/o DNS, P.O. Box 117, Concord, CA 94522-0177; telephone 925/825-0649; E-mail xstreamerx@aol.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

REQUEST FOR LISTING IN *THE NUMISMATIST*

Calendar of Events, published monthly in *The Numismatist*, is a free service reserved for ANA member clubs and organizations. Entries must be received by the Publications Department **at least eight weeks** prior to the cover date of the magazine, and preferably as much as **four months** in advance so announcements can appear in several consecutive issues.

Send completed form to:

The Numismatist, Calendar of Events, 818 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279
Fax 719/634-4085

Sponsoring organization(s) _____ ANA # _____

Name of show _____

Check one: _____ local show _____ regional show _____ national show

Show date(s) _____

Show location _____

Street (or other directions) _____

City _____ State _____

Chairman or other person to be contacted for more show information (*print exactly as you wish it to appear in the calendar*):

Name / Title _____ Telephone (optional) _____

Address _____ E-mail (optional) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____



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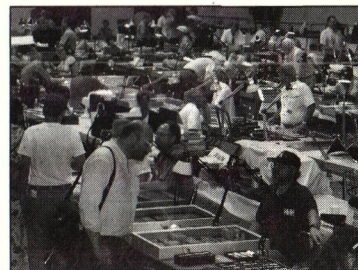
Membership News

CLUB NEWS

The **Alamo Coin Club (ACC)** has more than enough coin holders. What is needed for its annual Children's Auction are coins, currency, tokens or medals in values of \$5 and higher, preferably United States specimens and some world coins. Numismatic books and publications, even if out-of-date, also will be appreciated to help educate and encourage young numismatists. For more information or to make a donation, write to the ACC, P.O. Box 790441, San Antonio, TX 78279-0441, or telephone 210/341-6587.

The 63rd **Iowa Numismatic Association (INA)** convention, auction

Colorado Springs Show Draws Avid Collectors



Hundreds attended the July 6-8 coin show co-sponsored by the Colorado Springs Coin Club and the Colorado Springs Numismatic Society. The annual event is scheduled during the ANA's popular Summer Seminar.

and coin show will be held in Cedar Rapids on October 13-14. Co-hosted by the INA and the Cedar Rapids Coin Club (CRCC), the event takes place at the Sheraton

Four Points Hotel, 525 33rd Ave. S.W. Show hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. A 48-table bourse will bring together dealers from several states.

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Membership News

Educational programs and demonstrations scheduled for Saturday feature Jim Casper striking "coins" by hand; Steve Feller speaking on Algona, Iowa's, prisoner-of-war camp and World War II paper money; and Jack Glass discussing Iowa trade tokens. Among the prizes to be given away in a raffle is an uncirculated 2001 \$10 platinum American Eagle, uncirculated \$5 gold Eagle, uncirculated 1946 Iowa Centennial commemorative half dollar, and a 2000 silver proof set.

A Saturday evening auction will be conducted by Christopher's Rare Coins of Des Moines. Admission to all events is free, and ample parking is available. To obtain an auction catalog or more information, contact Show Chairman Connie Stewart, P.O. Box 2277, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406, telephone toll-free 800/701-3123. Dealers interested in tables can telephone Bourse Chairman Nevin Roberts at 319/377-6974.

The **Erie County Coin & Stamp Club** (ECCSC)—200 members strong—is sponsoring Expo 2001, a coin, stamp and currency show, on Saturday, October 6, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Sunday, October 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The show

will be held at the Fraternal Order of Eagles Hall, 4569 Broadway in Depew, New York. Fifty dealers from around the United States and Canada will be on hand. Free appraisals are offered. The United States Postal Service also will man a booth for the show's duration.

Public admission is \$1 for adults; children under 12, accompanied by an adult, are admitted free. Participants will have an opportunity to win currency, gold coins and commemorative stamps. To learn more about Expo 2001 or the ECCSC, contact Rolf Hjalmanson, c/o Lazer Tree Graphics, 6589 Main St., Williamsville, NY 14221, telephone 716/633-4104, or E-mail jalmar@buffnet.net.

The **Delta Coin Club of Stockton** (California) is hosting its 37th Annual Coin Show, Saturday, October 20 and Sunday, October 21 at Eagle's Hall, 1492 Bourbon Street, in Stockton. The two-day show features a 40-table bourse, hourly drawings and, on Sunday afternoon, a drawing for gold coins. Admission and parking are free. Contact publicity coordinators Isolee Smith by E-mail at ismith@valleyip.net or Bill Horning, at P.O. Box 7604, Stockton, CA 95267-0604, telephone 209/477-0404, or E-mail whorning@inreach.com.

The public is invited to the 38th Annual Utah Coin Show, sponsored by the **Utah Numismatic Society** (UNS). The event, featuring coins, medals, tokens, paper money, hand-held collectibles and jewelry, will be conducted October 26-28 at the Larry Miller Conference Center, 9750 S. 300 W., Sandy, UT. Contact the UNS at P.O. Box 65054, Salt Lake City, UT 84165.

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The following applications for membership, representing membership numbers 197829 through 198129 and life members 5477 through 5492, were received before July 3, 2001. Unless accompanied by one of the following codes—A (Associate), J (Junior), JA (Junior Associate), D (Student), LM (Life Member) or CLM (Converted to Life Member)—all applications are for Regular Membership. Absence of a state heading indicates that no applications were received from that state. If within 30 days of this publication no written objections are received regarding the following individuals or clubs, their membership shall remain in effect and they shall have the right to vote.

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Failure to respond to official ANA correspondence.

OBITUARIES

PAUL Z. BEDOUKIAN— ANA 26004

Paul Zareh Bedoukian, a leading expert on ancient Armenian numismatics, died on June 29, 2001. He was 89 years old.

Born in 1912 in Sebastia (Sivas, now in Turkey), Bedoukian was a victim of Turkish oppression, according to Leon A. Saryan, a longtime friend and researcher specializing in Armenian coinage. Bedoukian lost several relatives in the Armenian genocide of 1915, including his father. With his mother and brother, he settled in Canada, where he earned a Ph.D. in organic chemistry

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Membership News

at McGill University in 1942.

An international authority on the chemistry of perfumes and flavors, he formed Bedoukian Research, Inc., a company specializing in the manufacture of synthetic chemicals for perfumery. His first love, Saryan recalls, was the collection and study of Armenian coins and antiquities.

"He was an indefatigable researcher who was continually burrowing into the unknown folds of the Armenian past," says Saryan. "His lasting contributions are more than a dozen books and 100-plus scholarly studies on various aspects of early numismatics. This prolific output opened new horizons previously beyond the grasp of most collectors. It would not be an exaggera-

tion to state that he single-handedly erected the structure of Armenian numismatics through his efforts." Bedoukian's two most important literary contributions are *Coinage of Cilician Armenia* and *Coinage of the Artaxiads of Armenia*.

His collecting activities led to the preservation of thousands of Armenian coins and artifacts, which he donated to various museums in the United States, Europe, the Middle East and Armenia. Beneficiaries of his collection include the ANA, American Numismatic Society, Harvard University, Smithsonian Institution, Columbia University, Armenian Library and Museum of America, and State Museum of Armenian History.

In recognition of his achievements

and generosity, Bedoukian received the ANA's Glenn Smedley Memorial Award in 1993. Last year, his colleagues in the Armenian Numismatic Society honored him with a gold medal bearing his portrait.

A member of the ANA since 1956, his other memberships included American Numismatic Society, Royal Numismatic Society and the Société Française de Numismatique.

He is survived by his wife, Victoria; one son, Robert; two daughters, Betty and Joan; and seven grandchildren. Memorial contributions can be directed to the Armenian Library and Museum of America, 65 Main St., Watertown, MA 02472, or the Fund for Armenian Relief, 630 Second Ave., New York, NY 10016.

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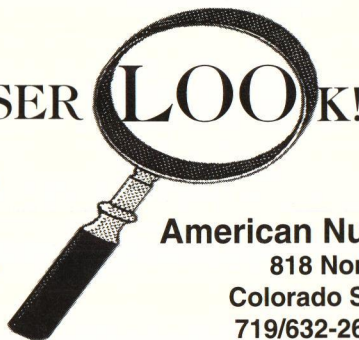
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JOSEPH B. COLLIER—ANA 22585

Joseph Bronson Collier, an ANA member for more than 47 years, died on July 5, 2001, in Norfolk, Virginia. He was 80 years old.

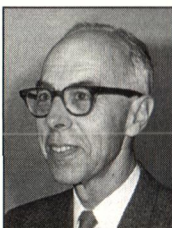
Collier owned and operated the Quarterdeck Restaurant for 22 years. He served in the United States Army during World War II.

He is survived by his wife, Donna; two sons, Joey and David; five grandchildren; two sisters; and one brother. He is preceded in death by his daughter, Patricia.

JOHN S. DAVENPORT—LM 44

John Stewart Davenport died this summer (date unknown) in Mount Dora, Florida. He was 94 years old.

A pioneer in the study of silver-



Davenport

His research on European crowns, German talers and African silver dollars yielded a wealth of numismatic information.

Davenport joined the ANA in 1934 and became a life member in 1936. He received several Heath Literary Awards for his contributions to *The Numismatist* and was awarded the Medal of Merit in 1955 for his tireless efforts in support of

dollar-size coins, Davenport was inducted into the ANA Numismatic Hall of Fame in 1988 and received the coveted Far-ran Zerbe Memorial Award in 1967.

the Association.

A former professor at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois, Davenport was the respected author of such standard references as *European Crowns 1700-1800*, *European Crowns since 1800 Excluding the German States*, *European Crowns and Talers since 1800* and *Silver Dollars of Africa*.

STEPHEN R. TAYLOR—ANA 69576

Stephen R. Taylor, a past president of the ANA, died on July 1, 2001, after a brief battle with cancer. He was 74 years old.

"The numismatic community has lost a great soul and an example for the rest of us," says H. Robert Campbell, ANA immediate past president.

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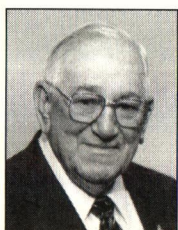
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Membership News



Taylor

that I was able to present him with a Presidential Award at the ANA convention in Philadelphia last year."

ANA Executive Director Edward C. Rochette adds, "Steve was a good friend and a pleasure to know. He made everyone he met feel at ease and welcome. The numismatic hobby and the ANA have lost one of their greatest supporters and promoters."

Taylor, of Dover, Delaware, en-

tered numismatics while trying to interest his son, Stephen Jr., in coin collecting. He quickly acquired a passion for the hobby, ultimately concentrating his attentions on paper money. A prolific exhibitor, Taylor set up displays at numismatic events in more than 30 states and four Canadian provinces. He was honored with many awards, including the ANA's Howland Wood Memorial Award for Best-in-Show Exhibit at the ANA's 87th Anniversary Convention in Houston, Texas, in 1978.

Taylor was a frequent speaker at ANA conventions and coin shows, giving presentations on "Paper Money of the United States as a Hobby" and "The Fun of Exhibit-

ing," designed to interest young collectors in the hobby.

Elected to the ANA Board of Governors in 1981, Taylor served as vice president from 1985 to 1987 and as president from 1987 to 1989. A founder of the Kent Coin Club (KCC) in Dover, he served three terms as its president and originated the club's monthly newsletter. He also was president of the Milford (Delaware) Stamp and Coin Club, Currency Club of Chester County (Pennsylvania), Maryland State Numismatic Association (MSNA), Middle Atlantic Numismatic Association (MANA) and Garden State Numismatic Association (GSNA). He was a board member of the Society of Paper Money Collectors (SPMC), Vir-



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ginia Numismatic Association (VNA) and Great Eastern Numismatic Association (GENA). He served as chairman of the International Numismatic Fellowship of Rotarians.

Taylor received the ANA's Glenn Smedley Memorial Award in 1991 and Medal of Merit in 1997. Other honors include MANA and KCC "Numismatist of the Year." He was the first recipient of the Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists' Frank Gasparro Award and also was named a Numismatic Ambassador by *Numismatic News*.

A lifelong resident of Delaware, Taylor was born on September 29, 1926. After serving in the United States Navy, he spent 34 years in banking, retiring in 1983 as a vice

president and branch administration director. He served on several local boards, including the YMCA, Rotary Club, Dover Chamber of Commerce, American Cancer Society and Delaware Small Business Administration. He acted as campaign chairman for the United Way of Delaware. Before his retirement, Taylor was appointed to Delaware's State Council on Banking.

He is survived by his wife, Beulah; one son, Stephen; one daughter, Barbara Harvath; and four grandchildren.

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K 67665 **Hal H. Davies**, Mayfield Village, OH (joined 1-71)

K 15492 **Ben Eubanks**, Ft. Walton Beach, FL (joined 1-48)

K 20209 **Richard W. Fellows**, Manhattan Beach, CA (joined 1-52)

R 195640 **Larry E. Hager**, Willis, TX (joined 2-01)

G 6672 **Wayne L. Higbee**, Seattle, WA (joined 1-38)

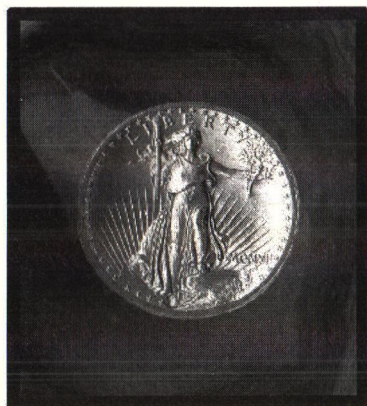
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1796-97 Half Dollars

continued from page 1019

overall description. When possible, photographs in dealer lists or auction catalogs also were used. (Examples of this comparative analysis are offered in Table 3; a complete report is available to interested readers.) Based on the results of this analysis, I determined that 16 of the 81 1796-97 half dollars originally included in the study probably are duplicates.

Table 4 illustrates the distribution of 1796-97 half dollars after the deletion of suspected duplicates. The 65 specimens listed represent 1.7 percent of the 3,918 half dollars reportedly minted. Without a doubt, the survival rate for the series is higher than this, but how much? Continued research is needed to an-

swer this question.

The results in Table 4 probably shed more light on the grade distribution of extant 1796-97 half dollars than on the number of survivors. Although the 65 coins in this study are not statistically representative, their grade distribution may well approximate that of the surviving population. This study does not support the notion that surviving specimens are "mostly in low grades or exhibit impairments." Fifty-three of the 65 pieces (82 percent) graded Fine or better. Eighteen coins graded Very Fine, 11 graded Fine, and only 9 were described as having problems or impairments (excluding adjustment marks). This contradicts the belief that the typical, circulated example "ranges from Good to Fine," with a number of examples "hover-

ing around . . . Fine. . . , but falling short of Very Fine." Bowers and Merena's catalogers were very close when they noted two or three "strictly Mint State" examples of the 1796 16-star specimen. I documented four such coins in Table 4.

As was indicated for determining the survival rate of 1796-97 half dollars, the actual grade distribution of surviving specimens will only become apparent through continued work on the series.

Conclusions and Implications for Further Research

THE PRESENT STUDY captured 65 different 1796-97 half dollars appearing on the market from 1990 through 1999. As previously mentioned, however, this is only the first step in determining the number of



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TABLE 4
1796-97 Half Dollars by Date, Star Variety and Grade (for 1990-99)
with Possible Duplicate Specimens Eliminated

I.D. NUMBER & GRADING SERVICE* (IF APPLICABLE)

GRADE	1796 15 STARS	1796 16 STARS	1796 STARS UNKNOWN	1797	QTY.
Poor		51			1
Fair				17 (PCGS)	1
AG-3		9		12, 29	3
G-4					0
G-6				26 (PCGS)	1
VG-8				25 (ANACS), 31 (ANACS), 45, 65	4
VG-10				28 (NGC), 43 (PCGS)	2
F-12	3, 62 (PCGS)	4		6 (PCGS), 8, 15 (ANACS), 36 (PCGS), 39 (PCGS)	8
F-15	75	38 (PCGS)		19	3
VF-20	2	67, 69		1 (ANACS), 7 (PCGS), 41 (NGC), 79, 33 (NGC)	8
VF-25				44 (PCGS), 68, 70	3
VF-30		5 (PCGS), 63 (PCGS)		27 (PCGS), 35 (NGC), 42 (NGC), 76	6
VF-35		73 (NGC)			1
EF-40	74 (NGC)			20 (ANACS), 78	3
EF-45		40 (NGC), 46 (NGC)		37	3
AU-50				18	1
AU-55			71 (NGC)	60 (NGC)	2
AU-58				30 (PCGS)	1
MS-60	72			24	2
MS-61				49 (NGC)	1
MS-62	50 (NGC)				1
MS-63	22	23		14 (PCGS)	3
MS-64	57, 58	13 (NGC), 34 (NGC)		77 (NGC)	5
MS-65				16	1
MS-66		56			1
Total	10	15	1	39	65

* ANACS, Numismatic Guaranty Corporation (NGC), Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS)

surviving coins in this series and their grade distribution. Several questions should be addressed before that goal can be reached.

First, how many potentially available half dollars (that is, those in private collections) did not come up for sale during this time and consequently were not included in this analysis? Census surveys, such as those conducted by the John Reich Collectors Society (JRCS), might shed some light on this question. (A survey of 12 specimens residing in collections of JRCS members was published in the *John Reich Journal* in 1998. These were not included in my study, but some subsequently could have been sold and might be among the 65 coins considered here.)

Second, does this study fail to include some 1796-97 half dollars that

may have appeared for sale during the 1990-99 period? I continue to survey auction catalogs and price lists in search of overlooked specimens.

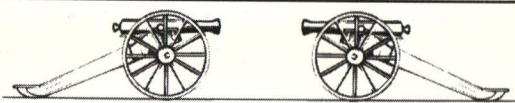
Third, what specimens appeared on the market prior to the study period? In this regard, Andrew W. Pollock III, after surveying more than 1,000 auction and mail-bid catalogs and fixed price lists, recorded all illustrated 18th-century half dollars. I am reviewing his work, as well as other numismatic literature (including Bowers' treatises on the Brand, Norweb and Garrett collections, and John Adams' two-volume *United States Numismatic Literature*), for additional references to the half dollars of 1796-97.

Lastly, how many 1796-97 half dollars are unavailable, and what is their state of preservation? These in-

clude specimens residing in domestic and foreign institutional collections, such as those maintained by the ANA, Smithsonian Institution, American Numismatic Society, British Museum, universities and municipalities.

The identification of other surviving 1796-97 half dollars likely will require several more years of researching dealer price lists, auction results, census surveys, population reports and institutional collections, and soliciting information from private collectors. Perhaps then we can establish the true rarity of this important series, as well as the grade distribution of surviving specimens. Hopefully, this study has provided a step in that direction.

I plan to publish follow-up reports and ultimately a monograph-length work based on my continuing



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research and comments from readers. As such, I would appreciate receiving information from collectors who own 1796-97 half dollars. Especially important are the date, variety, grade, date acquired, and description of surface condition, including any impairments. A photograph or scan of the piece would be helpful. All information is confidential and will be reported only in aggregate form.

To send information or request copies of my complete data, write to Dr. Jon Amato, P.O. Box 5515, Albany, NY 12205, or direct E-mail to jamat69@hotmail.com. (For data requests via U.S. mail, please include \$4 to cover postage and photocopying.)

Acknowledgment

I WOULD LIKE to thank the helpful staff of the American Numismatic

Society library for allowing me access to early catalogs and price lists. •

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A specialist in early U.S. coinage, **Dr. Jon P. Amato** teaches courses in economic geography and environmental management at the State University of New York at Albany.

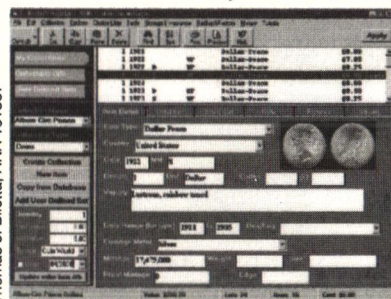
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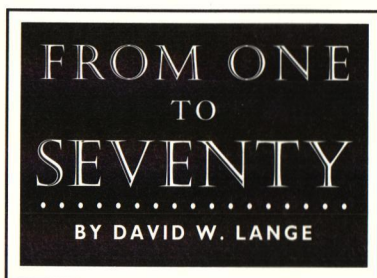
Grading Liberty Cap Cents

THE YEAR 1793 was a hectic one for the infant United States Mint. While only copper was coined, no less than three, distinct types of cents were produced. All featured busts of Liberty. The first type was paired with a circle of chain links, the second with a wreath.

With the hiring of Joseph Wright, the Mint's first skilled engraver, a new bust of Liberty debuted in September. This bust was a right-facing portrait of the young goddess, a staff resting on her shoulder. Atop the staff was a conical cap of the type associated with freed slaves in ancient Rome. This obverse type was used in conjunction with a simplified wreath.

This basic design lasted through mid 1796, though several distinct styles have been noted. Wright died prematurely in the yellow fever epidemic of 1793, and his original bust was modified early the next year by his successor, Robert Scot. John Smith Gardner traditionally is credited with a further modification toward the end of 1794. This final

rendering of the Liberty Cap obverse lasted through the end of this type in April 1796. (Wright's Lib-



erty is known as the "Head of '93"; Scot's, the "Head of '94"; and Gardner's, the "Head of '95." Subtle changes were made to the reverse as well, but these are of interest only to series specialists.)

A truly complete type set of United States coins includes all three editions of the Liberty Cap cent. Each has its peculiarities.

Head of '93 cents are scarce in any grade, with well-preserved examples genuinely rare. Wright's Liberty was executed in very high relief overall, yet her hair and facial features were unusually delicate. While both beaded and denticled borders were employed with this type, neither was able to protect these coins from the ravages of circulation. Struck on the impure and often porous copper planchets used at that time, the resulting coins deteriorated quickly and seldom are found in desirable condition. Head of '93 cents are by far the most challenging of this overall type to find in collectable condition.

Head of '94 cents are known in more than 40 varieties, all dated 1794. Both common and rare vari-

eties exist, so the type collector has many coins from which to choose. Though still in high relief, Liberty's portrait is more evenly wrought than on the previous issue. Planchet quality varies, with choice surfaces being scarce, but obtainable for a premium.

Patience will be rewarded when searching for a coin of this style. In addition to seeking a good planchet, look for a sharp strike and unimpaired surfaces. Many early cents have been cleaned and recolored. When done skillfully, this is not a deterrent, but some coins may have an unnatural appearance. A good way of determining what is considered acceptable by collectors is to examine large cents that have been certified by major grading services.

Head of '95 cents include the final varieties dated 1794 and all those dated 1795-96. The Gardner bust is characterized by a lower relief that enhanced die life, an important consideration given the great amount of handwork that went into finishing each die.

Cents of this type are known with both lettered and plain edges, reflecting a reduction in weight from 208 to 168 grains. (The thinner coins simply could not accommodate the edge lettering.) The planchets used for these cents varied dramatically in quality. For this and other reasons, the striking sharpness of Gardner's cents ranges across the board.

While the plain-edge cents dated 1795 are the most plentiful of this style, finding just the right coin for a type set still is a challenge. On the positive side, these typically are the least expensive Liberty Cap cents, though some varieties are scarce. •



The "Head of '94" large cent features Robert Scot's modification of the Liberty Cap obverse created by his predecessor, Joseph Wright.

Correct Conservation Concerns Collectors

EACH COLLECTOR'S SYSTEM of storing coins is as unique as the individual who designed it—no two methods are alike. By carefully choosing and implementing good storage solutions, you will help assure the value of your collection for years to come.

Q: I store my collection in a safe-deposit box. I plan to place each coin in an inert polybag, then in a 2 x 2-inch, inert plastic holder that will be placed inside a cardboard box. Is this a good conservation method? Where can I buy storage products, particularly on-line?

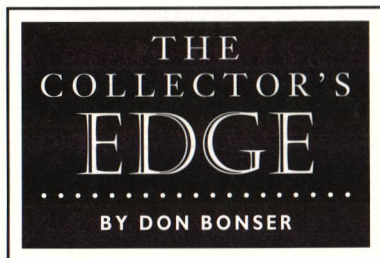
—B.B., via Internet

A: Your method sounds fine; however, as with any type of coin preservation, I strongly recommend that you check your collection periodically (at least every few months) to be certain its condition is not deteriorating. While a good storage system can make oxidation and other forms of deterioration much less likely to occur, it cannot eliminate risk entirely.

The ANA offers a number of coin and paper-money storage options through its MoneyMarket catalog. You also can check advertisements in *The Numismatist* and other hobby periodicals, especially weekly numismatic newspapers in which companies advertise products in the classified section under "Supplies." These ads frequently include the company's web address, where you can learn more about various products and how to purchase them.

Storage in a cardboard box probably is okay, but for added protection,

you might consider the new, Intercept Shield™ boxes designed to accommodate 2 x 2-inch holders. Ac-



cording to the manufacturer, the product neutralizes virtually all corrosive contaminants in the atmosphere before they come into contact with your coins.

Q: I store my coins in 2 x 2-inch, cardboard holders with mylar viewing areas. The holders then are placed in flexible, plastic sheets. Do these products contain the contaminant PVC (polyvinyl chloride)?

I am considering putting each of my coins in a Kointain™ holder, then into the pockets of the plastic sheets. Will all Kointains fit in a

2 x 2-inch pocket? Do you know of better options available?

—J.E.F., North Carolina

A: Without seeing the plastic sheets, I cannot tell you if they contain PVC. Since most do, I avoid them for long-term storage. Although the mylar window in the cardboard holder is inert, the windows themselves are prone to attracting small pieces of cardboard dust. They do only a fair job of minimizing air exchange around coins, and the thin windows tear easily. I recommend using this type of holder with inexpensive coins that are unlikely to tone (oxidize) further. If you do use them, be sure to use a pair of pliers to flatten the ends of the staples so they will not scratch adjacent coins.

Be aware that some of the older 2 x 2-inch cardboard holders have soft, thin PVC sheets as windows. Most of these are long gone, but you may encounter them on occasion.

I like Kointain coin capsules. They are inert, and because they tightly enclose a coin, greatly minimize air exchange around its surfaces. Most, if not all, Kointain sizes fit a plastic sheet, but be absolutely certain the sheet is inert and PVC-free. You might also consider a sulfur-free, 2 x 2-inch paper envelope to house each Kointain, then store these in an Intercept Shield box.

Readers are invited to send questions or observations regarding coin preservation to me in care of *The Numismatist*, 818 N. Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279; or E-mail anaedi@money.org. Your questions and comments may be edited for length and clarity. •



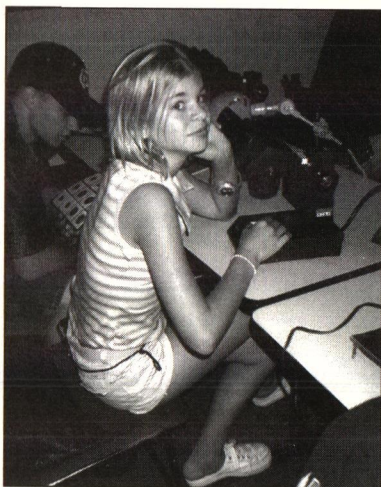
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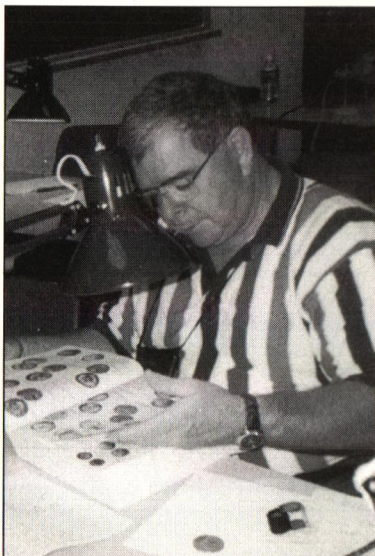
.....
BY BRIAN A. SILLIMAN

Detecting Counterfeit and Altered World Coins at the Summer Seminar

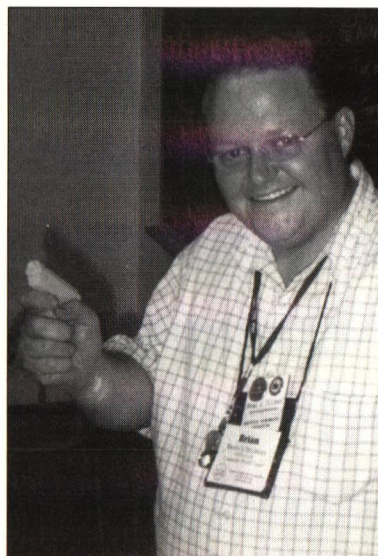
This year's Summer Seminar at the American Numismatic Association's Colorado Springs headquarters and the adjacent Colorado College, June 30-July 13, saw the return of many favorite classes and the addition of several new courses, including one on detecting counterfeit and altered world coins. Students enrolled in the course were subjected to a rigorous program of slide presentations, coin examination and guest lecturers. Taking time out of their busy Seminar schedules to address the class were ANA Museum Curator Robert



Even young numismatists tested their authentication skills. Here Katy Crenshaw of Lilburn, Georgia, takes a short break from the microscope.



Jim Darden (left) of Greenville, North Carolina, attempts to authenticate a coin. Instructor Brian Silliman (brandishing a water pistol) made sure that those caught napping during his class received a wet wake-up call.



W. Hoge and ANA Authentication Bureau consultant William Spengler, who discussed ancient coins; specialist and ANA Chief Exhibit Judge Joseph Boling, who focused on Japanese coinage; and consultant George Fisher, who spoke about Chinese issues.

Hundreds of specimens from dozens of countries and virtually every period were available for study. Some were provided by the ANA Money Museum, while others were loaned by dealers and scholars, including James Elmen, Ken and Tom Hallenbeck, Louis Hudson, Robert Mish and William Rosenblum.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who volunteered their time and materials to make this class a tremendous success. And congratulations to the students who worked so hard to complete the course!

To learn more about upcoming ANA counterfeit detection seminars,

contact the ANA Education Department, 818 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279, telephone 719/632-2646, E-mail ana_edu@money.org. •



Students learned quickly that authentication can be a team effort. Donald Goebel (front) and Chuck Mitton (center) frequently shared opinions.

Lorenzo de' Medici

continued from page 1026

Roman coins portrayed the emperors who issued them and, during the Renaissance, the ancient rulers were believed to embody all that was good and admirable in a classical society. Many modern scholars argue that collectors believed the very ideals and virtues the emperors represented were somehow actually contained in the coins that pictured them. By owning a coin depicting Augustus or Hadrian, collectors may have thought they could come closer to embodying the ideals of ancient Rome. As evidence of this idea, Cunnally quotes 16th-century author Enea Vico, who noted the study of coins could "reform the character of the collector."

Since depictions of emperors were so important, most collecting activity centered on assembling portrait sets. Interestingly, this pursuit led to the widespread manufacture of counterfeits that often were knowingly accepted. Apparently, authenticity was secondary to completeness.

Numismatic Literature

THE ADULATION OF coin collecting during the Renaissance becomes acutely clear when considering the number of numismatic books published during the time. Cunnally identifies five types of numismatic books published by the mid 16th century: 1) illustrated collections of portraits taken from coins; 2) illustrations of coins featuring a particular emperor or group of emperors; 3) essays about individual coins; 4) historical essays using coin imagery as evidence for arguments; and 5) studies of ancient monetary systems. Except for the last category, these books focus on images displayed on coins,

clearly echoing the collecting interests of the day. Most books were extensively illustrated, sometimes picturing fanciful types. Even in literature, it was most important to capture the images of Roman emperors; authenticity was less relevant.

The idea that capturing a bit of an emperor's greatness by possessing his coins applied also to illustrations of his coins. Cunnally believes that by the end of the 16th century, collecting illustrations of coins may have actually replaced collecting the coins themselves. It seems the old adage "buy the book before the coin" for a time became "buy the book instead of the coin."

Storage and Classification

IN LORENZO'S TIME, most coin collections were stored in simple wooden boxes. Scant thought was given to permanent display, and the boxes did not encourage detailed classification schemes. In most instances, the boxes were arranged on shelves in a study.

Dora Thornton traced the development of this important room in *The Scholar in His Study*. She believes most educated gentlemen felt it necessary to have a study and would spare no expense in furnishing one. A nobleman's greatest treasures were kept there to impress clients and business associates.

Massinelli and Tuena describe Lorenzo's study as "a room without windows, approximately twelve by fifteen feet, with wooden paneling, trompe-l'oeil painting on cabinets, and a glazed terracotta floor by Luca della Robia. The ceiling, a barrel vault decorated with twelve glazed terracotta tondos representing the months of the year, is credited to the same artist." Thornton adds that the paneling probably was walnut with

geometric and floral inlay.

Years later, the storage of coin collections gained importance. Painter-writer Giorgio Vasari was commissioned by Lorenzo's great-grandson Cosimo I to remodel a study for his son Francesco I. In 1557 Vasari described a conversation he had with Cosimo: "Between these columns and pilasters will be placed little cedar-wood boxes containing all his medals, so that they can all be seen easily and without confusion. The Greek ones will be here, the brass ones there, the silver ones in their place, and the gold ones will be divided between these places."

Toward the end of the 16th century, intricately carved cabinets with compartments for storing and classifying coins replaced the wooden boxes. In 1576 Cardinal Alessandro Farnese moved his collection from boxes to a walnut cabinet with 36 compartments and velvet-lined drawers.

Influence on Renaissance Art

LORENZO'S HOME WAS a meeting place for artists and scholars. He delighted in sharing his collections. Many coins the humanists used as credence for their arguments might have been part of Il Magnifico's vast collection.

Ancient coinage also found its way into Renaissance art. Medalists often copied designs from coins, and Weiss points out that coinage motifs frequently were used as architectural decorations. Bertoldo di Giovanni designed a medal featuring Lorenzo's portrait on the obverse and a motif influenced by a coin of Trajan on the reverse. Bertoldo was a friend of Lorenzo's and surely had seen his collection and taken inspiration from one of the coins. Early in his career, Michelangelo lived in the Medici household; no doubt Lorenzo al-

lowed the young artist to study his collection. Much of Michelangelo's later work, from the tomb of Julius II to the Sistine Chapel, shows the influence of coins he probably first glimpsed in Lorenzo's study.

Final Thoughts

AFTER CHARLES VIII took control of Florence from Lorenzo's son Piero in 1494, the majority of the collection was transferred to the French court. Much of it was returned when Cosimo I regained the city in 1537, but as the family's power waned in the mid 18th century, the collection slowly was sold. Perhaps a piece in your collection might once have been housed in a small, wooden box in Lorenzo de' Medici's study, where he sought to capture the greatness of ancient Rome.

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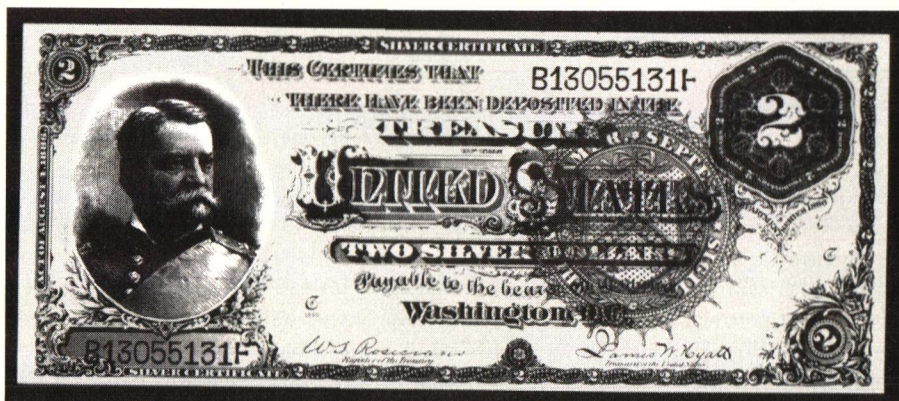
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Born in Rockford, Illinois, **Jason Kubl** enjoys collecting Greek and Roman coinage and American type coins. His last article for *THE NUMISMATIST*, "The Portrayal of Native Americans on U.S. Coinage," appeared in the February 2001 issue.

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CURATOR'S CORNER

A Work in Progress

Opening ceremonies for the ANA Museum's upper galleries on July 14 marked the completion of the first phase of the Association's plans for expansion and renovation. The ANA began the \$3 million project last December, with the objective of replacing all the galleries with two open exhibit areas spread over two floors, and installing movable display cases that allow for greater flexibility.

The nearly finished first-floor area now features an impressive exhibit entitled "Proud Spirits: American Indians, Bison and Numismatics," inspired by James Earle Fraser's ever-popular Buffalo/Indian Head nickel. The new exhibit explains the creation of Fraser's nickel and focuses on such uniquely American subjects as the Lewis and Clark Expedition (including their guide Sacagawea); images of Native Americans on Colonial coins and paper

money, and Civil War tokens; Indian Peace medals; medals honoring the Choctaw and Navajo Code Talkers of World Wars I and II, respectively; Jim Thorpe's posthumously awarded Olympic gold medals; and modern-day gaming tokens from tribal casinos. There is even a proud bison on sentry duty (on loan from the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming).

The first floor also showcases the finest specimens from the comprehensive collection of America's gold coins, patterns and paper money assembled by the late Harry W. Bass Jr. This fabulous exhibit allows visitors to enter a vault-like setting to experience the audio- and computer-enhanced displays that tell the coins' stories. Fiber-optic lighting illuminates the material, and a touch of a button cues audio and video descriptions.

Design of the Bass Collection display area was undertaken by the Harry W. Bass Jr. Foundation of Dallas, Texas, and HOK Studio E of St. Louis, Missouri. However, the remaining Museum exhibit area is

the inspired product of the dedicated Money Museum staff and other ANA headquarters employees. Some visitors to the newly opened facility were so impressed, they donated to the "ANA Target 2001" headquarters renovation fund on the spot.

This was a massive project and a proud accomplishment. But it is not finished. The lower galleries are a work in progress, and the ANA must raise more money to finance the rest of the renovation. Ultimately, the new Money Museum will be one of the largest facilities of its kind, stimulating visitors' interest in numismatics with intriguing windows on the worlds of history, art, geography, religion, economics, sociology and architecture. We need your continued support to make it happen! •

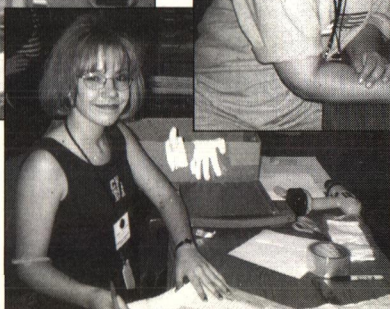
Since the ANA is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, all donations (both of cash and of material with established "fair market value") qualify as charitable contributions for income tax purposes. Contact the ANA Museum, 818 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279, telephone 719/632-2646, E-mail anamus@money.org.



An American bison, on loan from the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming, arrives at ANA headquarters (above). Jess Brettell of Museum Services (and all-night exhibit vigils) tends to administrative duties (right).



ANA Museum Services' Tiffanie Bueschel (left) catches her breath, one of the few quiet moments since the renovation began. Below, Randy'L Teton, Museum intern and model for the Sacagawea golden dollar (right), and exhibit consultant Mary Jo Meade groom a friend for display.



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A U C T I O N I N S I G H T S

Heritage Raises \$2,001 for ANA Renovation

Thanks to the generosity of 100 clients of Heritage Numismatic Auctions and matching funds from the Dallas-based firm, \$2,001 was raised for the ANA's **Target 2001 building renovation fund.**

"The rebuilding of the ANA's Museum and Library was long overdue," says fund-raising co-chairman Jim Halperin. "The ANA needs a finer facility to better serve its members. Heritage has long supported the educational efforts of the ANA, both financially and through encouraging membership in the Association to our clients. We plan to E-mail ANA membership applications to the 39,000-plus members of Heritage's Internet community."

To raise money, Heritage sold specially priced copies of the catalog for the ANA's 2001 Atlanta convention sale, then volunteered to donate the entire amount if buyers made their checks payable to the ANA building renovation fund. Heritage matched donations to bring the total to \$2,001. For information, write to Heritage Numismatic Auctions, 100 Highland Park Village, 2nd Floor, Dallas, TX 75205; or visit www.heritagecoin.com.

Early American History Auctions announced the results of its June 9, 2001, mail-bid sale, consisting of 2,027 lots of **autographs, coins, currency and Americana**. Prices realized include a 15-percent buyer's premium.

In the category of coins and currency, a 1652 Massachusetts Pine

Tree shilling (large planchet), described as "Very Choice Toned Uncirculated," sold for \$27,025. A 1792 Washington "Born Virginia" copper, graded Extremely Fine, fetched \$10,638; and a 1788 New Jersey copper ("Horse's Head Facing Left"), graded Very Fine to Extremely Fine, reached \$9,488.

Among the paper money lots, a Massachusetts June 18, 1776, \$5 small "Sword in Hand" design, graded Choice Extremely Fine, realized \$2,875; and a South Carolina March 6, 1776, £50 note with *Trophies* vignette and graded Choice Extremely Fine, traded hands for \$2,013. A sheet of three 1771 North Carolina notes, all Gem Crisp Uncirculated, brought \$1,668. In national currency, a Merchants Farmers National Bank of Greensburg (Charter #2562) \$20, graded Very Fine to Extremely Fine, was hammered down at \$3,278.

In United States coinage, an 1892-S Barber quarter, in Mint State-64, made \$1,380; and a 1797 Draped Bust silver dollar, "Plain Eagle" reverse (10 stars on the left, 6 stars on the right), graded Very Fine-20, realized \$1,495. A 1959 silver bar, .99975 fine, stamped by the United States Mint at Francisco, graded Choice Very Fine, sold for \$2,013.

Among the selection of medals, a 1759 British "Capture of Quebec" specimen in copper, graded Gem Uncirculated, reached \$1,610; while an 1885 Grover Cleveland Indian Peace medal in copper, graded Gem Uncirculated, realized \$2,990.

Early American History Auctions is accepting consignments for future bimonthly sales. For details, write to EAHA, P.O. Box 3341, La Jolla, CA 92038; E-mail auctions@earlyamerican.com; or visit the firm's web site at www.earlyamerican.com. •

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The Weakest (Chain Cent) Link

ANNOUNCER: "WE NOW return to America's favorite numismatic quiz show, *The Weakest Chain-Cent Link*. Only two contestants remain. 'David,' author of more than 38,000 books and articles about coin collecting, hasn't missed a single question. His only remaining opponent, 'Donn,' a former ANA governor, miraculously has survived elimination round after round, although he has answered only one question correctly—his name at the start of tonight's show."

QUIZ MISTRESS: "This is the final round. One of you will go home with a million dollars in burnished, Sacagawea golden dollars; the other will leave with only shame and humiliation, the same emotions felt when you recall the prices you paid for Morgan dollars back in 1989. Are you ready, David?"

DAVID: "Yes. Did I tell you I was on the *Today Show* when I was only 16 years old?"

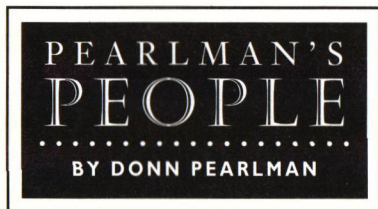
QUIZ MISTRESS: "And you, Donn, are you ready?"

DONN: "Huh? Uh, can you repeat the question, please?"

QUIZ MISTRESS: "Now, audience, let's see who really is a nickel short of a proof set! Who thinks the 'Red Book' is something crowds waved at Chairman Mao? Who is the weakest Chain-cent link?"

DONN: "Hello. Testing, 1, 2, 3. Is my microphone working? Can anybody hear me?"

QUIZ MISTRESS: "Let's begin! David, how many proof 1-ounce, platinum American Eagles has the



United States Mint struck this year?"

DAVID: "As of this morning, that would be 1,343."

QUIZ MISTRESS: "Correct! Donn, what building is on the reverse of the Lincoln Memorial cent?"

DONN: "Uh, would that be New York City's Lincoln Center?"

QUIZ MISTRESS: "Wrong! It is the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. David, what is the exact weight of a \$3 gold piece?"

DAVID: "Seventy-seven point four grains. Did you know they were made when the Mint was..."

QUIZ MISTRESS: "Correct again! Donn, does the United States produce 'cents' or 'pennies'?"

DONN: "Well, we've got Penny Marshall and penny loafers..."

QUIZ MISTRESS: "Wrong! The official designation is 'cents,' something you seem to be lacking. David, name one of the signature combinations on \$100 Gold Certificates of 1882."

DAVID: "James C. Napier and Lee McClung. There's an interesting story about..."

QUIZ MISTRESS: "Donn. Why are bank notes often called 'greenbacks'?"

DONN: "Because they were picked before they were ripe?"

QUIZ MISTRESS: "Wrong again! It is because of the color of the ink—and you have no inkling of anything. David, what is the specific gravity displacement of a silver tetradrachm that weighs 17 grams?"

DAVID: "That's one point six milliliters. Did I tell you I'm writing yet another book about..."

QUIZ MISTRESS: "Correct again! (Buzzer sounds.) Time is up. Donn, you have no more chances to prove your dies are not cracked; no more opportunities to show that your I.Q. is higher than the Mint State scale. You have failed to answer any questions correctly. You are denser than a Kellogg & Humbert slug. Your original luster is altered. You embarrassingly have shown you are eminently qualified to run again for the ANA Board. You ARE the weakest Chain-cent link! Goodbye!"

DONN: "Would you mind repeating the question?" •

Donn Pearlman (P.O. Box 750, Skokie, IL 60076 or Donnpr@aol.com) undoubtedly would perform much better on such highly popular numismatic television programs as SLABS OF FORTUNE and THE PRICE IS FIXED.

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